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# ARAB TIMES

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## Aquino's firm no to Filipino coalition

MANILA, March 29, (UPI): President Corason Aquino today ruled out a coalition government with communist guerrillas unless they lay down their arms and win in an election. The 160,000-member armed forces, meanwhile, remained on red alert — the maximum state of readiness — for possible guerrilla attacks to mark the 20th founding anniversary today of the rebel New Peoples Army (NPA). Aquino told reporters she will never agree to the "Nicaraguan-style coalition government" the guerrillas said they planned to establish. "That cannot be. I have already said that time and time again. The only way they can do

## Plane sighted

MANILA, March 29, (UPI): A Philippine Air Force plane that vanished today while on a flight to a disputed island in the South China Sea was found by a US Navy search aircraft floating in the water and officials said all 12 people aboard survived.

See plane found Page 2

that is first of all to lay down their arms and take part in elections and it will be up to the people to choose their leaders," Aquino said.

Aquino said she was satisfied with the voter turnout on Tuesday in the polling for the 41,000 village councils, adding "people seem to be very enthusiastic."

A military report said rebels yesterday ambushed a police station in Pofia town in the northern mountain province of Ifugao, sparking a gun battle that left 17 guerrillas dead.

Yesterday's balloting marked the final phase of the return to full democracy since Aquino took power in a civilian-backed military revolt that drove 20-year ruler Ferdinand Marcos into exile in Hawaii.

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آج کے اردو صفحات میں  
○ چین کا تائیوان کو بھروسہ  
○ پاکستان نے کشمیر پر  
○ بھارت شروع کر دینے  
○ مشرق وسطیٰ میں میزائلوں کی دھمکی

## WEATHER

TEMPERATURE will be around normal with moderate north-westerly wind which may freshen at times.  
Sea: calm to fresh.  
High water: 6.00 am, 4.00 pm  
Low water: 11.00 am, 11.00 pm  
Moonset: 5.40 am  
Moonrise: 6.05 pm  
Maximum temperatures recorded:  
Amman: 26°C 79°F  
Irbid: 25°C 77°F  
Jordan temperatures recorded:  
Amman: 13°C 55°F  
Irbid: 15°C 59°F  
Minimum temperatures expected:  
Amman: 27°C 81°F  
Irbid: 25°C 77°F  
Maximum humidity recorded:  
Amman: 70 per cent  
Irbid: 60 per cent  
Jahla: 65 per cent

## Kuwait to receive Egyptian missiles

### Israeli supremacy threatened

LONDON, March 29, (Agencies): Kuwait and Iran will soon receive new missiles amid reports that a missile race is under way in the Middle East that is eroding Israel's traditional aerial supremacy and "could dramatically change the balance of power" in the region. Jane's Defence Weekly said in a report that Iraq, Syria, Egypt and Saudi Arabia have missiles that could reach Israel and "Libya is rushing to catch up, introducing even more unpredictability."

Arab states are pursuing billion-dollar arms programmes, with the stress on missile development, Jane's said.

Israel, the only Mideast nuclear power, has possibly 100 nuclear weapons, and its survival has always depended on Air Force supremacy, the respected military affairs weekly said.



Moderate Montazeri sacrificed to a new wave of militancy.

## Montazeri wanted killings to be halted

PARIS, March 29, (Agencies): Ayatollah Hossein Ali Montazeri appealed to Iranian revolutionary leader Ayatollah Khomeini at least twice last year to stop thousands of executions, according to letters made public in Paris today.

The letters showed that Montazeri, whose resignation as Khomeini's successor-designate was announced yesterday, feared that an implacable wave of official killings was turning people against the revolution and blackening Iran's name.

Iran's official media issued extracts yesterday from a recent exchange of letters in which Montazeri, 66, told Khomeini he was unfit for the burden of supreme leadership and wanted to return to the simple life of a theology teacher. Khomeini, 86, accepted.

Gulf diplomats said today, Khomeini personally ordered Montazeri to resign in the biggest political shake-up in Tehran since a ceasefire in the war with Iraq.

Diplomats said Khomeini has become increasingly alarmed at what he perceives to be a softening of his fiery brand of Islamic fundamentalism within the ruling clergy.

They said Khomeini is determined to install a successor who will carry on his avowed policy of spreading the Iranian revolution

But it added: "The acquisition by Iran and major Arab military powers of increasingly sophisticated missiles capable of carrying nuclear warheads is eroding Israel's technical superiority, particularly its traditional supremacy in the air."

Kuwait's Defence Minister Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmed announced today that Kuwait will soon take delivery of the first shipment of Egyptian anti-aircraft missiles under an arms deal. "Kuwait will soon receive the first shipment of Amoum ground-to-air missiles from Egypt and the remainder will be received in batches in line with a specified timetable," he said.

Sheikh Nawaf, speaking at a military ceremony during the graduation of non-commissioned officers, gave no other details.

Sheikh Nawaf also disclosed that representations were under way in Kuwait to form a reserve brigade of conscripts to support the country's armed forces and boost its defence capabilities.

Kuwait has a military strength of around 20,000 men, with hardware that includes Soviet-built SA-6 and SA-7 surface-to-air missiles.

Meanwhile, China is to provide Iran with 40 new Silk-worm missiles, a submarine and a reconnaissance satellite as part of a major new arms deal, a newspaper reported today.

Quoting unnamed Eastern and Western military sources, the Arabic-language Abu Dhabi daily Al Itihad said the latest deal would include eight batteries of HQ-21 anti-aircraft missiles, the Chinese version of the Soviet SAM-2.

"A Chinese combat submarine will be delivered to Iran by the end of this year, and China will also build an Iranian satellite expected to be launched in early 1990s from a Chinese rocket," the paper said.

It said the satellite would be used for "communications and reconnaissance purposes."

It was the latest of several Iranian arms deals reported by the newspaper recently. On March 20, it quoted East European sources as saying Tehran had signed agreements with Czechoslovakia for 180 Soviet-type tanks, and with Romania for 300 armoured vehicles and tanks. 180 tank carriers, construction of a naval base and conversion of a tractor plant to build armoured vehicles.

The UAE on the other hand, is to bolster its Air Force with an undisclosed number of British Aerospace Hawk jets, the official WAM news agency has said.

The UAE already has 12 Hawk multi-role MK 63 fighter-trainers and eight MK 61 Hawk trainers, along with French-made Mirage and Italian Aermacchi.

## Liquor deaths

NEW DELHI, March 29, (AP): At least seven people died and several others fell ill after drinking moonshine liquor in the northern state of Uttar Pradesh, news reports said yesterday.

The deaths occurred late on Monday in two villages near Allahabad city, southeast of New Delhi, United News of India reported.

## Clear my father's name, son of Indira killer asks

EW DELHI, March 29, (AP): Declassified government port proves a Sikh hanged for 1984 assassination of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi was innocent, his son said today after asking the supreme court to clear his father's name.

Rajinder Singh's father, Kehar Singh, was convicted of conspiracy in Indira's assassination and hanged on Jan 6. In his petition, Rajinder Singh said the report "in no unmistakable terms" raised suspicion of the involvement of Rajendra Kumar Dhawan, then the personal secretary of Indira. Rajinder Singh said the report had arrived at the conclusion

that the two assassins were "engaged by other important conspirators." He said his father was a "humble clerk" in a government office and "had an impeccable record of a highly moral and law abiding citizen."

Besides asking the court to clear his father innocent, Rajinder Singh also is seeking wages of one million rupees



## Arafat nominated President of Palestine

TUNIS, March 29, (Reuters): The PLO executive committee has nominated Yasser Arafat as President of the state of Palestine, a PLO spokesman said today. The nomination will go to the vote in the PLO central council when it meets in Tunis on Friday, spokesman Ahmed Abderrahman said.

Abderrahman said that if the council approved the decision, Arafat would remain President of Palestine until democratic elections could take place in the independent state declared at a meeting in Algiers last November.

An Irish schoolgirl, Sarah Neary, invited to meet Arafat said today the encounter had convinced her the PLO wanted peace. Picture shows Arafat embracing Sarah Neary. (Reuters wirephoto)

## US-bound hijackers give up at Frankfurt

FRANKFURT, West Germany, March 29, (Agencies): Two teen-age gunmen sprayed Prague airport's VIP lounge with bullets before hijacking a Hungarian airliner to Frankfurt today and surrendering to West German authorities.

The Czechoslovak youths stormed into the scheduled area at Ruzyně airport located near boarding gates, and started shooting before getting on to the plane, a Prague airport spokesman said.

No one was hit by the gunfire but a policeman collapsed during the shooting, he said.

The aircraft had been scheduled to fly from Budapest, Hungary, to Amsterdam with 110 passengers, the Hungarian news agency MTI reported. The hijackers freed 100 passengers before taking off.

There were no reported injuries to the 10 passengers and three crew aboard the commandeered Soviet-made Tupolev 134.

Frankfurt police spokesman Kurt Kraus said the two hijackers were Czechoslovak youths, aged 15 and 16, who were armed with a sawn-off shotgun and a rifle.

The airline of the Hungarian state airline, Malev, landed at Frankfurt airport at 12:32 pm (10:32 GMT). Negotiations followed for 30 minutes before the hijackers left the plane and gave themselves up, an airport spokesman said.

Kraus said the hijackers were being questioned to establish their motives. The passengers and crew were also being questioned, he said.

In Prague, the state press agency CTK said the Czechoslovak government had taken steps to extradite the hijackers, whom it called terrorists.

Hungarian Radio said earlier the hijackers spoke Slovak, the language of Czechoslovakia's eastern Slovakian region, but were initially thought to be Polish.

Kraus denied reports that the hijackers handed themselves over to US military authorities. Frankfurt airport, continental Europe's busiest, shares runways with a US Air Force base next door.

Hungarian Radio said the two men demanded originally to be taken to the United States.

## Kuwait flexible on output OPEC seeking market stability

VIENNA, March 29, (Agencies): OPEC ministers seeking ways to strengthen the oil market opened talks today, a day after crude oil prices hit the OPEC target of \$18 a barrel.

Ministers on arrival said they would discuss current production and pricing levels and then turn to pricing and output levels for the second half of the year.

Kuwaiti Oil Minister Sheikh Ali Al Khalifa, meanwhile, told reporters he was flexible on a call which he made in an interview with the Middle East Economic Survey newsletter for the OPEC output ceiling to rise to 20 million barrels daily in the second half of the year.

He said that was his present position, "but we are reasonable people. There is no position that cannot be changed...we have to decide on the basis of the figures." Other ministers appeared more cautious.

Ministers were upbeat as the average price of crude oil reached their goal of \$18 a barrel. "This was our aim — to get to \$18," said OPEC President Rikman Lukman, who is the Nigerian Oil Minister.

"So we've done it," he said upon arriving last evening for the OPEC meeting.

"The market situation is OK, and we have got the price we expected from the market," said Iranian Oil Minister Gholamreza Aghazadeh.

Aghazadeh opposed any immediate rise in OPEC's target price of \$18 a barrel, which ministers say has now been attained in free market trading — a gain of more than \$5 since last autumn's oil glut.

The Vienna meeting today and tomorrow of the eight-nation OPEC market monitoring committee is not mandated to take pricing decisions but will review OPEC's success in recent months in operating output quotas to get supply and demand into better balance.

According to OPEC Secretary-General Subroto it will also put forward ideas for a full conference in June of all 13 members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

There is also reluctance to say much about what the June meeting ought to do, especially since delegates expect that OPEC experts will be warning the ministers to be ready for a seasonal dip in oil demand in the next three months.

"We must wait and see," said Iraqi Oil Minister Isam Abdul Rahim Al Chalabi, who also stressed the need for market stability, in harmony with former Gulf war foe Iran.

Oil prices turned mixed in quiet trading today after sharp price swings earlier in the week, traders in London said.

Brent for lifting in May was quoted around \$18.68 a barrel, nearly one dollar down on Monday's 17-month highs.

US oil prices plummeted by as much as 90 cents a barrel yesterday. West Texas Intermediate, the benchmark US crude for immediate delivery, went to dollars 19.91 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

## Shelling continues

## Beirut truce appeal ignored

BEIRUT, March 29, (Agencies): Syrian forces blasted the besieged Christian enclave with rocket fire today, ignoring a ceasefire call by the Arab League. Christian Army commander Major General Michel Aoun said today.

"We are adhering to the truce despite the random Syrian shelling that has targeted even hospitals," Aoun told a news conference. "But our patience has limits."

The general set no deadline. He said, "The Syrian leadership is crazy. We shall complain to the UN Security Council and the Arab League about the new Syrian attacks."

Sporadic salvos fired from multi-barrelled rocket launchers thundered over the Lebanese capital all day, despite the truce Aoun proclaimed at midnight (2200 GMT Tuesday) in response to the Arab League appeal.

The firing intensified at nightfall. Aoun accused Syrian gunners of trying to destroy grain houses and fuel tanks at the Beirut port, which is controlled by his 9th Army Brigade.

The Mediterranean harbour was shrouded in black smoke by nightfall.

The US embassy said Ambassador John McCarthy was in the bomb shelter at the time. The residence lies midway between the Presidential Palace and the Defence Ministry.

A committee of Arab mediators met a number of Lebanese politicians in Tunis in the early hours of today and Arab League sources said they may send a peace mission to Beirut.

## Fay's day

An alleged Michael Fay celebrates after hearing the news that a New York court has awarded him \$250,000 for his alleged car theft. (Reuters wirephoto)

## One Turkish MP kills another in Parliament

ANKARA, March 29, (Agencies): An opposition deputy was shot dead by another deputy in Turkey's Parliament building today as political tension ran high after defeats for the ruling party in nation-wide local elections.

The semi-official Anatolian News Agency said Abdurrazak Ceylan, from the centre-right True Path Party (DYP), died after being taken to hospital for emergency surgery for a gunshot wound in the chest.

There was confusion over who had shot Ceylan. The agency said the alleged assailant, Idris Arkan, a member of Prime Minister Turgut Ozal's Motherland Party, had denied firing at Ceylan. He said the shot was fired by another deputy.

Hilmi Aras, Deputy Speaker of Parliament said the shooting apparently resulted from a personal conflict between two deputies. He did not identify the deputies.

Police sources said nobody had been held yet on suspicion of shooting Ceylan.

Members of Parliament, who are allowed to carry guns in Turkey, reconvened yesterday with Ozal, a 61-year-old conservative, resisting calls to resign after his party finished third in Sunday's municipal voting.

The shooting took place in a corridor of central Ankara's parliamentary complex. Turkey's security boss promptly ordered police to guard all political party buildings in the country.

Ceylan and Arkan were from the southeastern province of Siirt, near the Iraqi frontier — an area where separatist Kurdish rebels have been active for five years.

Ceylan lies on the ground after being shot. (Reuters wirephoto)

Zahed Matar



# Thousands battle Seoul riot police

## Protesters demand reunification

SEOUL, March 29, (AP): Thousands of demonstrators shouting anti-government slogans battled riot police with firebombs and rocks today after rallies to support a dissident leader's visit to communist North Korea.

Hundreds of riot police tried to drive back the protesters in the southern cities of Taegu and Kwangju, where groups held rallies to express support for dissident Moon Ik-Hwan's visit to North Korea, police and witnesses said.

The South Korean government — charging that dissidents are trying to undermine its authority — has said Moon will be arrested when he returns. Moon went to North Korea to discuss reunification of the two countries.

About 5,000 students from 13 colleges gathered at Chonam University in Kwangju to denounce President Roh Tae-Woo's government and demand reunification, said Yonhap, the South Korean news agency.

Police opened fire with tear gas when the protesters attempted to march into the streets. "Reunification" and "Down with Roh Tae-Woo," the students shouted.

Another 5,000 students and workers attended a rally at

Kyemyong University in Taegu. About 2,000 protesters then attempted to march into the streets and clashed with riot police blocking the way, police said.

Police in Taegu and Kwangju said they had no immediate reports of arrests or serious injuries.

In Jinju on the southern coast, about 800 students clashed with police in another anti-government protest, but officials said the demonstration was not linked to Moon's visit.

The protests came as South Korean government officials were reconsidering efforts to improve relations with the North. Officials have charged the North is trying to undermine the Seoul government by having independent contacts with South Korean dissidents.

Prime Minister Kang Young-Hoon and other government leaders met and agreed to take a "cautious stand" in future detente with North Korea, a

government official said, speaking on condition of anonymity. Yonhap quoted an unidentified high government source as saying Roh was considering a cabinet reshuffle to hold security officials responsible for failing to stop Moon's visit.

Moon met with North Korean President Kim Il Sung on Monday in Pyongyang, North Korea's capital. Officials in Seoul say he will be charged with violating a South Korean law that forbids unauthorized contact with the North.

A South Korean government official who spoke on condition of anonymity said the South would continue efforts to ease tension on the Korean peninsula and maintain limited contact with the North. But officials were studying the impact of Moon's trip on inter-Korea dialogue.

Roh's government has been trying to improve relations with the North to ease tension on the peninsula and broaden its trade with other communist nations.

# Three shot dead in central Sri Lanka

## Tamil CM complains of inadequate powers

COLOMBO, March 29, (Agencies): The chief minister of the Tamil-dominated northeastern province yesterday accused Sri Lanka's federal government of being unco-operative and not granting him enough administrative powers.

Vartharaja Perumal, the top official of the northeastern province and a former rebel leader, said his local government had no control over education, administrative services, law and order and allotment and distribution of land.

The provincial government was set up under a July 1987 peace accord aimed at

ending a Tamil insurgency for a separate homeland.

The accord, signed by India and Sri Lanka, aimed to give limited autonomy to Tamils in exchange for their withdrawing the secessionist demand and laying down arms.

Perumal returned on Saturday from a trip to New Delhi, where he requested the intervention of Indian leaders.

"If the Sri Lankan government is not co-operating in the implementation of the provincial council and blocking every aspect, where else can I go to with the

difficulties we face," Perumal said in a statement in Colombo.

Perumal said in New Delhi that "the Tamils should not be made to go back to the bush. If a provincial council fails there will be no solution except a bloodbath."

Meanwhile, an Army deserter and two youths were shot dead in central Sri Lanka by an armed group calling themselves the "Black Cats," a senior police official said yesterday.

The official said the three men, members of the Sinhalese radical group Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna, had been responsi-

ble for cutting women's hair and shaving the heads of men in the area who had opposed their orders.

The slayings occurred on Monday night in the village of Poonawra, 22 miles (23 km) from the north-central provincial capital of Anuradhapura, the police source said.

He added that at least 100 persons that were allegedly members of the Sinhalese extremist group have been killed by the so-called "Black Cats" in the past two months.

The "Black Cats" are a shadowy organization and not much is known about them.

## 100 feared dead as ferry capsizes

DHAKA, March 29, (AP): An overcrowded ferry capsized in the Meghna River in southern Bangladesh and at least 100 people were feared drowned, police said today.

Most of the victims are believed to be women and children, said police, speaking by telephone from Barisal.

The ferry Taqdir, which means "fate" in the Bangla language, was carrying 300 passengers when it sank yesterday in the river in Barisal district, south of Dhaka, said one police officer.

It also carried an illegal load of merchandise, the officer said, but he declined to identify the cargo.

Most of the passengers swam to safety, police said, but at least 100 people were believed trapped in the hull and feared dead.



## Guatemala prison mutiny

An unidentified inmate is taken away by security personnel inside the maximum security prison of El Pavon in Guatemala.

Interior Minister Roberto Valle said that more than 500 women and children, taken hostage by prisoners during a failed mass escape on Easter Sunday that left seven people dead, wanted to stay with their inmate relatives to protect them from government reprisals. (Reuters wirephoto)

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Stalker identified

LOS ANGELES, March 29, (UPI): A woman angrily identified accused night stalker Richard Ramirez as the man who raped her, shot and killed her husband and forced her to swear allegiance to Satan.

Asked yesterday by prosecutors if the man who broke into her home on Aug. 8, 1985 was in the courtroom, the woman, who sobbed throughout her testimony, pointed to Ramirez seated at the defence counsel's table.

"You son of a bitch," she screamed. "You kill him. I give you everything, Bastard, everything. I give you everything."

### North's trial

WASHINGTON, March 29, (AP): Fear that US President Reagan would be impeached gripped his administration after Oliver North confirmed that money from the Iran arms sales had been diverted to the Nicaraguan Contras, says former Attorney General Edwin Meese III.

Testifying at North's trial, Meese agreed with defence lawyer Brendan Sullivan that the administration was worried disclosure of the diversion could cause "the toppling of the President himself."

### Baby-eating charge

LUSAKA, March 29, (Reuters): Zambian police have arrested a man who they say axed a woman and killed, roasted and ate her four-month-old baby.

Lusaka newspapers quoted police in the northern town of Kasama as saying the man was arrested on Friday and had recently served a five-year prison sentence for murdering one of his own children and drinking its blood.

### Menace of narcotics

ISLAMABAD, March 29, (KUNA): The government will seek the help of the Pakistani People's Party (PPP) in overcoming the growing menace of narcotics in the country, which has afflicted nearly 1.9 million people across Pakistan, according to Syed Muzaffar Shah, the minister of state for newly created ministry for narcotics control.

### Clot dissolvers

NEW YORK, March 29, (Reuters): A widely accepted blood clot-dissolving drug is as effective in treating heart attack patients as a newer agent that has gained popularity but is far more expensive, according to a study published today.

### Rise in crime

BEIJING, March 29, (AP): China's leading law officials today portrayed the nation as beset by rising violent crime, rampant profiteering in scarce goods, official corruption and increased juvenile delinquency.

## South African protest

# 7 seek refuge in UK, US missions

PRETORIA, March 29, (Reuters): Seven South African black activists, including one who escaped detention without trial, sought refuge in British and US diplomatic missions today.

Six former detainees, five men and a woman, entered the British embassy in Pretoria and demanded the lifting of government restrictions on all ex-prisoners, including themselves.

A seventh activist, Simon Ntombela, slipped away from police guards in a hospital in the port city of Durban and fled to the US consulate in Johannesburg, more than 500 km (300 miles) away, a consular official said.

The consulate was giving temporary refuge to Ntombela, who demanded his unconditional freedom, the official said.

"We are in touch with the South African government with a view to resolving this case as expeditiously as possible."

The six who entered the British embassy were told by diplomats that they should leave.

An embassy spokesman said Britain opposed detention without trial and the curbs placed on many detainees when they were freed.

"We however believe the visitors cannot say indefinitely on British government premises and should leave," the spokesman said in a statement.

"We are nevertheless prepared to draw the attention of the South African government once again to the issue of restrictions, but we do not believe that the visitors' case is being furthered by their continued stay in the embassy," he added.

The six had earlier vowed to stay in the embassy until their demands were met.

## Thatcher sees a 'sea-change'

HARARE, March 29, (Reuters): British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher has launched a push for a negotiated settlement to the problems of southern Africa, and has hinted that her door will be open for dialogue to top South Africans.

She made clear that she believed the time was ripe for a diplomatic initiative when she arrived last night to a warm welcome in Harare from President Robert Mugabe.

Thatcher said South Africa had a lesson to learn from the way Zimbabwe had gained its independence from Britain in 1980.

"I think there is a sea-change in the region there is an atmosphere about these problems that they can be solved by patient negotiation," Thatcher said, with Mugabe standing beaming by her side.

South African activists have increasingly sought protection in foreign diplomatic missions and to publicise their protests, particularly against arbitrary detention under 33-month-old emergency laws imposed to quell black protest.

Last week four activists escaped from custody and stayed in the West German embassy in Pretoria for 48 hours until the government promised they would not be re-arrested.

Last September three prominent anti-apartheid campaigners also in prison were held up in the US consulate in Johannesburg for five weeks before being allowed to go free.

## Missing plane found at sea

MANILA, March 29, (AP): A military plane carrying 12 people was found floating at sea today more than eight hours after it was reported missing, officials said. Aboard were reported to have survived.

Philippine Air Force spokesman Col. Melchor Rosales said the nine passengers, including a brigadier-general, election officials and a television news crew and the plane's three crew members were found alive atop the aircraft.

## Basques warn they may end ceasefire

MADRID, March 29, (Reuters): Basque separatist guerrillas threatened today to end a truce if the government did not withdraw a statement on its secret talks with them within 24 hours.

ETA (Basque homeland and freedom), who extended a two-and-a-half month truce until June two days ago, said the statement issued by the Interior Ministry yesterday was not the text that had been jointly agreed in secret talks in Algiers.

In a communiqué to the radical newspaper Egin, ETA's usual channel for statements, the guerrillas said the government talked of "an agreed and definitive solution" instead of "a politically

negotiated solution" and of "talks in Algiers" instead of "process of political talks in Algiers."

The Interior Ministry was not immediately available for comment.

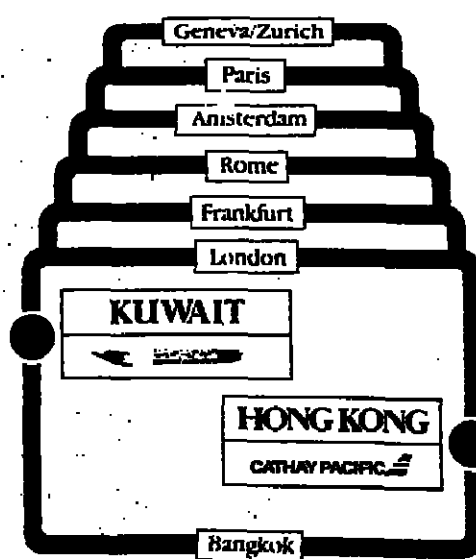
ETA had announced the unprecedented truce, the first declared unilaterally in its 27-year-old bloody campaign for Basque independence, in January while holding the talks in Algiers.

Although the contents were kept secret, the government had publicly ruled out making concessions to the guerrillas and said the only thing open to negotiations were the terms of amnesty for individual guerrillas.

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# Largest counterfeit ring broken up in US

NEW YORK, March 29. (Reuters). A gang of Latin Americans who dreamed of printing enough counterfeit US dollars to go into the cocaine business in a big way has been broken up, federal officials said today.

The gang made \$100 million of top-quality phony dollar bills in what was the biggest counterfeit operation ever discovered in the United States, the US secret service and federal prosecutor Andrew Maloney said.

Maloney told a news conference that \$35 million of the gang's counterfeit bills had been recovered, and most of the rest was destroyed by the gang as officials closed in on their New York headquarters, a basement in a house in Long Island.

But an estimated \$2 million may still be in circulation, Maloney told reporters at the secret service's New York office. The secret service tracks counterfeiters in the United States among its many duties.

Maloney said the gang hoped to make enough dollars to negotiate a huge cocaine deal in Colombia. He said the gang planned to intersperse counterfeit dollars with real money to make a deal but they were caught before putting their plan into action.

He said 85 people were arrested, from couriers to the top five members of the gang. Among them were the gang's Uruguayan ringleader Francisco "the professor" Scocozza and his Colombian printer Fernando Diaz, who was brought secretly into the United States from Mexico.

"Diaz worked for less than the minimum wage. He put in 12 hours a day, six days a week for \$200. But he was promised a share of the profits," Maloney said.

Maloney said the five top gang leaders had all pleaded guilty to the charges against them and would be sentenced in May. They face jail terms of up to 15 years.

Richard Ward, the head of the secret service office in New York, said the gang started organising two years ago and began printing money last year.



AIDS protest

Hundreds of demonstrators marched on New York City hall yesterday, accusing officials of ignoring the AIDS crisis and demanding Mayor Edward Koch do more to help sufferers. More than three dozen protesters were arrested as they choked rush-hour traffic. Police dragged 39 of the demonstrators off the road and into waiting police vans and charged them with disorderly conduct.

# Scepticism over fusion success claim

LONDON, March 29. (Reuters). A British chemist who reported a breakthrough in the search for a cheap and unlimited source of energy said he was not surprised by scepticism about his nuclear fusion theory.

Last week Martin Fleischmann and American Stanley Pons said they had sustained a fusion reaction at room temperature with a simple electrochemical process rather than the

huge, costly machines normally used in fusion research.

Easy creation of nuclear fusion — the energy source of the sun — could offer cheap and unlimited energy.

Some experts have doubts and five scientists will try to repeat the experiment with one of the world's most sensitive neutron detector systems at the Harwell Laboratories in Berkshire, southern England.

Fleischmann, 61, a professor at Southampton University, told reporters: "This is something so extraordinary that I think they are entirely justified in being sceptical."

**Failure**

A Dutch expert also expressed scepticism about hopes of a new era of cheap nuclear energy as a result of recent experiments

carried out by scientists in the United States.

The Plasma Physics Laboratory at the Dutch Foundation for the Fundamental Research of Matter failed to duplicate the results in repetitions of the experiment on Monday.

Tony Donne, scientific group leader of diagnostics at the laboratory, said Fleischmann and Pons might have advanced

the understanding of fusion but he doubted whether their find would usher in a new era of limitless cheap energy.

Meanwhile, San Jose City Governor Norm Bangerter and leading lawmakers announced on Tuesday that the legislature will hold an emergency session to provide \$5 million to develop a safe and inexpensive way of generating power through nuclear fusion.

# Bali's balm for Pamela

LONDON, March 29. (Reuters). British newspapers said today they had tracked down a former Indian beauty queen at the centre of a sex and politics scandal, discovering her at a hideaway on the Indonesian island of Bali.

Parliamentary aide Pamela Bordes, 27, has been in hiding since tabloid newspapers made a series of allegations two weeks ago about her private life, including links to an unnamed cabinet minister, two British national newspaper editors and a Libyan security official.

## Traced

The Sun newspaper said it had traced Bordes to a remote mountain village in Bali, where she was staying with friends to escape the scandal back in Britain.

"I have done nothing wrong. I don't know why people are after me," the Sun quoted her as saying.

# Close races draw spotlight

# Oscar fever grips Hollywood

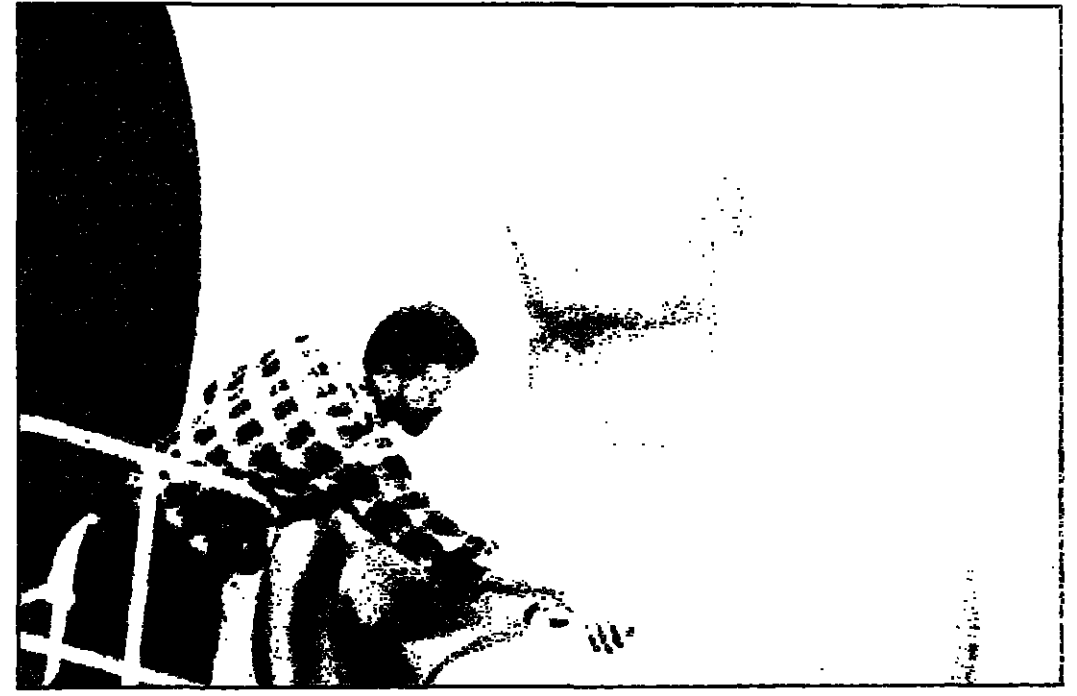
LOS ANGELES, March 29. (AP). Hollywood's brightest stars were trying hard to keep their cool amid the competitive atmosphere of tonight's 61st Academy Awards ceremonies.

The extravaganza takes place against a feverish backdrop of ticket scalping, thievery, political demonstrations and last-minute preparations.

Tickets for the ceremony were selling for more than \$2,000 and Oscar guards were looking for someone who stole 40 passes for the show.

Scores of fans who arrived early were eagerly awaiting the arrival of their favourite stars. Minutes after Oscar bleachers opened last night, dozens of spectators streamed in. Thousands were expected by the show's opening.

One early arrival, Samuel Scott of Los Angeles, said: "It's like a family get-together because each year you see the same people... you discuss different pictures that you've taken and what you've been up to. I don't get tired of it."



Scenic artist John Beardsley puts the finishing shine on a three-story tall Oscar statuette outside the Shrine Auditorium as part of final preparations for the 61st Academy Awards. (Reuters wire photo)

**Predictions**

Predictions for best picture, best actresses, best supporting actor and best supporting actress were cloudy.

Any variety of upsets were considered possible.

Only actor Dustin Hoffman and director Barry Levinson of Rain Man will enter the shrine auditorium as heavy favourites to win statuettes.

One of the evening's tightest races — for best supporting actress — will be decided the earliest when Melanie Griffith and Don Johnson present the

ceremony's first trophy.

Leading contenders for the best supporting actress award are Frances McDormand for Mississippi Burning and Sigourney Weaver for Working Girl. Other nominees are Joan Cusack for Working Girl, Geena Davis for The Accidental Tourist and Michelle Pfeiffer for Dangerous Liaisons.

The fate of Rain Man, the road drama of autism and brotherly love that received the most nominations — nine, will become clearer when the original

score trophy is presented four awards later. If Hans Zimmer wins that prize, and the film claims the art direction Oscar three categories later, Rain Man likely will go on to dominate.

Yet Rain Man faces strong challenges from Dangerous Liaisons, the saga of sexual gamesmanship and deceit in pre-revolutionary France. The baseball film Bull Durham, the civil rights drama Mississippi Burning and the action-adventure spectacle Die Hard.

The major awards — best

actress, best actor and best picture — will be handed out near the conclusion of producer Allan Carr's elaborate Oscar presentations. The spectacle is being broadcast nationally by ABC-TV starting at 0200 GMT.

Although Hoffman is favoured to win best actor, he competes against a highly respected field: Gene Hackman for Mississippi Burning, Tom Hanks for Big, Edward James Olmos for Stand and Deliver and Max von Sydow for Pelle the Conqueror.

# Better have it at home

**Hospital births hazardous**

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, March 29. (Reuters). An international health official has warned doctors that hospital births endanger the health of mothers and babies.

Dr Marsden Wagner, European regional director of the World Health Organisation, told an international medical conference that hospital births risked lives because of impersonal procedures and over-use of technology and drugs.

"I am convinced the procedure of placing all newborn babies in one room was the biggest mistake of modern medicine," he told the five-day international congress on the psychology and medicine of birth.

His remarks drew applause from some of the doctors, midwives, social workers and childbirth educators at the congress. Others defended the system.

"Technology is merely a tool whose worth depends on how it is used," countered Dr Ram Ishay, president of the Israel Medical Association. "Usually its use is justified."

Wagner said a hospital nursery was a cradle of germs, separating babies from their mothers at the most sensitive point of their relationship. He said studies linked separation at birth to later child abuse.

Wagner criticised hospitals for routinely using medical procedures once reserved for only the most extreme cases.

"Ten out of every 1,000 babies in developed countries die. In an effort to save those 10 babies, we put 990 babies through procedures that profoundly disrupt the experience of birth," he said.



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TMI-AMC 09/171



## Deaths of chicken eggs raise life questions

SPACE CENTRE, Houston, March 29, (AP): The deaths of 16 chicken embryos during a space shuttle flight this month raise a question whether animal life can begin in weightless space, a physician-astronaut said.

Thirty-two chicken eggs were carried aboard Discovery, half of them fertilised nine days before the March 13 launch, the other half two days before liftoff.

Dr James Bagian, a member of the shuttle's five-man crew, told a news conference that when Discovery returned to earth, all 16 of the younger embryos were dead. The older ones all hatched, and the chicks are being examined for any effects from the five-day exposure to weightlessness.

Bagian said the chicken experiment and another in which he observed plant growth were designed to determine if cell division is somehow "impeded or mutated" to some extent due to lack of gravity.

**Question**  
"There is a big question because the 2-day-old embryos died," he said. "Is there a certain point in the differentiation of cell types where they are vulnerable to the effects of the loss of gravity? Maybe gravity plays up to now an unknown role but a very essential role in that the older ones, at nine days, are past that crucial gate, if you will, and they are developing normally."

The experiment may show life cannot "begin anew" in orbit, Bagian said. "You may have to supply a gravity environment for a period of time."

The research could have an impact on plans to grow plants and animals on lengthy space journeys, such as an expedition to Mars.

"What looked like a very simple experiment may turn out to have generated thousands of questions now instead of providing any answers to anything," said crewman, John Blaha.

During the mission, the astronauts deployed a tracking and data relay satellite to complete a three-satellite NASA communications network and photographed areas of the earth where the environment has been damaged by man or nature.

The astronauts photographed areas of fire and deforestation, river and volcanic pollution, sand, dust and other storm damage.

## Man missing with \$33m international alert issued

SYDNEY, March 29, (AP): Police today said an international alert has been issued for the head of a national charity who vanished last week with \$33 million of the organisation's cash.

The case of John Friedrich, head of the National Safety Council, has caused a sensation in the Australian media. Reports have said Friedrich boasted of having no past and that he did not hold a passport, possess a social security number or appear on electoral rolls.

Press accounts have suggested he had ties to foreign intelligence agencies, but Prime Minister Bob Hawke today said those were "fanciful claims."

Federal police said Interpol, the Paris-based

international police network, was on the alert for Friedrich following reports that he was seen in West Germany and in Auckland, New Zealand.

"We've got no solid evidence as to whether he's alive or dead," or if he's in Australia or has fled the country," a police spokeswoman told the Associated Press, speaking on condition of anonymity. "He just vanished."

Liquidators, meanwhile, met with the NSC board in Melbourne and said the chances of it surviving another month were "negligible." The government has refused to bail it out of its 220-million-dollar (\$180-million) debt.

### On the light side

#### Fight over underwear

BENTON, Illinois, March 29, (UPI): A 35-year-old man was charged in the shooting of another man outside a bar in an argument over what kind of underwear — if any — a woman playing pool in the bar had been wearing. Taatu Sau, 35, was listed in stable condition yesterday at Memorial Hospital in Carbondale. Sau was shot in the abdomen on Sunday and underwent surgery later in the day, a hospital official said.

#### Ringo Starr back at work

LONDON, March 29, (AP): Ringo Starr was back at work at Abbey Road studios yesterday for the first time since his treatment for alcohol abuse, and all he had to do was act naturally. The former Beatle recorded a new version of his 1965 hit, Act Naturally, with the man who wrote it — country singer Buck Owens. "Ringo looked terrifically healthy and well when he arrived at Abbey Road. He was bright-eyed and very entertaining all day," Owens said.

#### Star acquitted of tax charges

MADRID, March 29, (AP): Flamenco star Lola Flores has been acquitted of tax evasion charges. Handing the government a setback in its highly publicised campaign to crack down on tax evaders, court officials said. But they said the Madrid provincial court ruled Flores could still be subject to administrative sanctions for failing to file tax returns between 1982 and 1985. The prosecution had asked the court seek a total of 148 million pesetas (\$1.3 million) in back taxes and sentence her to up to two years in prison.

#### Rally to promote abortions

NEW YORK, March 29, (AP): Singer Judy Collins, actor Ed Asner and about 30 other abortion rights advocates staged a rally on the steps of a courthouse to promote an April 9 march in Washington. Françoise Jacobs, a spokeswoman for the National Organisation for Women, said the group wants to make the public aware that access to legal abortions saves women's lives.

#### Rapist strangled

NICOSIA, March 29, (AP): A West German woman was arrested after she strangled a Turkish Cypriot man who allegedly raped her daughter, police said.

A police official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said 48-year-old Hedwig Ute Loh told police she used her belt to strangle 20-year-old Özmen Tulga after he raped her daughter Melani Loh, 20, in the northern Turkish sector of this eastern Mediterranean island.

The official quoted her as saying the incident occurred as she and her daughter were camping in a tent on a beach and that Tulga hit Melani on the head, knocking her out, before assaulting her.

### Alaskans angry

## Oil spill clean-up moving slowly

VALDEZ, Alaska, March 29, (Reuters): Alaskans are becoming angry at the slow pace of efforts to clean up a massive oil spill in Prince William Sound, one of the richest fisheries in the United States.

"We are faced with destruction of our entire way of life," John Devenis mayor of the southern oil terminus of Valdez, said yesterday.

Local residents and fishermen fear the oil spill, the worst in North America's history, could threaten their livelihood.

The tanker Exxon Valdez ran aground on Friday spewing out 240,000 barrels of crude which has spread over an area of more than 100 square miles (260 square kms).

Alaska fishermen fear that the spill, now stretching in a band at least 40 miles (65 km) south from the grounded tanker, will cause permanent harm to the waterway's fish habitat.

#### Salmon

The world's largest salmon hatchery, built with money levied on the earnings of fishermen, lies at the northern end of the sound, and boat owner Fed Deiser said it will not be known for years how the spilled oil will affect the salmon population.

"My whole life is fishing," Deiser said. "How do you get an oil company to respond to what has happened? They respond to two things — profit and image."

Dozens of citizens have turned up at news conferences in this small south Alaska town which lies at the southern end of the trans-Alaska pipeline.

In a speech heard by Frank Iarossi, president of Exxon Shipping Co., the tanker's owner, Devenis said the oil industry had generally been good to his town but he was frustrated over the little progress in cleaning up the spill.

#### Pipeline

He said the oil industry had assured Alaskans that the pipeline could be built and oil shipped out of Prince William Sound without harming the environment. "Now we feel a little betrayed," he said.

Iarossi was heckled when he rose to speak. A member of the audience shouted, "You and your company are totally money-motivated."

Iarossi said Exxon would fulfil its pledge to clean up the spill and expected to have removed half of the remaining oil aboard the tanker by midday today.

According to the latest figures released by Exxon officials, only 3,500 barrels have been retrieved.

### Hazard to shipping

## North Sea wreck sunk

LONDON, March 29, (AP): The wreck of a North Sea oil and gas platform on which 167 men were killed when it blew up last year was toppled to the seabed yesterday because it was a hazard to shipping.

Los Angeles-based Occidental Petroleum Corp., which owned the Piper Alpha platform, said three tugs and a barge were weakened by controlled explosions under water.

John Brading, the company's chairman in Britain, said there is now 250 feet (75 metres) of clear water above the wreck on the seabed, 110 miles (177 kilometres) east of Aberdeen on Scotland's east coast.

The July 6 blast was the world's worst to a platform at sea and was attributed by investigators to a leaking gas valve. There were 62 survivors. Thirty-one of the victims were never found.

# Key Soviet party leaders defeated

## First polls in 70 years

MOSCOW, March 29, (Agencies): At least 37 key Communist Party and government leaders went down to embarrassing defeats in the Soviet Union's first real election, according to results trickling into Moscow from across the nation.

The losers in balloting for a new national parliament included a member of the ruling politburo, the premiers of Latvia and Lithuania, and 27 Communist Party leaders from major cities, regions and republics, according to results obtained from interviews and press reports.

The humiliation was greatest for officials who ran unopposed on the ballot and still lost because more than 50 per cent of the voters crossed out their names.



Yugoslav riot policeman in bullet-proof vest patrols in downtown Pristina, after violent riots. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Reinforcements rushed to end rioting in Kosovo

BELGRADE, March 29, (UPI): Authorities, citing reports of a planned armed uprising by Albanian separatists, sent police reinforcements to the southern province of Kosovo in a bid to end rioting that has left at least 21 people dead.

About 500 ethnic Albanians stormed a police station yesterday in the town of Zur, near the Yugoslav-Albanian border, and were driven back by gunfire, killing a teenager.

In Belgrade, federal authorities said a total 21 people — two police officers and 19 demonstrators — were killed since the unrest turned violent on Monday. In addition, 25 police officers and at least 49 protesters were wounded in the worst ethnic

violence since 1981.

The federal government imposed a dusk-to-dawn curfew in Kosovo, banned gatherings of three or more people and dispatched police reinforcements in an attempt to end the wave of rioting.

Constitutional amendments adopted last week by the Kosovo legislature relinquished local control of police, courts and defence matters to the Yugoslav Republic of Serbia, which encompasses Kosovo and the autonomous province of Vojvodina.

The death toll in ethnic riots rose to 29 today when eight ethnic Albanians died of injuries in hospitals in Kosovo, officials said.

## US air command grounds its fleet of B1-B bombers

WASHINGTON, March 29, (UPI): The strategic air command grounded its fleet of 97 B1-B bombers — America's premier intercontinental-range nuclear aircraft — after one sustained a punctured fuel cell during a preflight check, the Pentagon said.

"The strategic air command has placed a precautionary stand-down of training flights of B-1B aircraft until further notice," Defence Department spokesman Dan Howard said today.

"The B-1B alert status is not affected by this

stand-down. Alert aircraft are manned and ready. They can fly their missions, if necessary to carry out their wartime requirement," he said.

The indefinite grounding of the B-1Bs is the latest in a series of problems and design deficiencies that have plagued the \$280 million bomber since it became operational in 1986.

Three of the 100 bombers have crashed. One was blamed on pilot error, another came after a petican slammed through the bomber's

skin and ruptured control and fuel lines, and third unexplained crash occurred on Nov 8 1988, at Dyess Air Force base near Abilene Texas.

Coincidentally, Howard said it was a Dyess where the B-1 was damaged during a preflight check.

"The stand-down is a result of a punctured fuselage fuel cell which occurred during a routine air crew preflight check at Dyess (Monday)," Howard said.



President George Bush eats pizza in the cafeteria of James Madison High School in Vienna, Virginia. (Reuters wirephoto)

## US, Japan fail to agree on FSX production

WASHINGTON, March 29, (UPI): The United States and Japan failed to resolve differences remaining on an agreement to jointly develop the new FSX fighter, the Japanese ambassador to the United States said yesterday.

Nobuo Matsunaga, after a 75-minute meeting with Secretary of State James Baker, told reporters at the State Department, "We reached no conclusions, but agreed to continue talking."

Asked if the chief Japanese negotiator, Vice-Defence Minister Seiki Nishihara, was returning to Tokyo, Matsunaga said, "Yes, he is going back." He did not say when Nishihara would fly back to Japan.

A senior American official who participated in the talks with the Japanese said, "Yesterday night, the talks are continuing, and we're continuing to work at it. There's still a ways to go."

**Develop**  
President Bush pledged yesterday, "The United States will keep its word," to help Japan develop the new FSX fighter and insisted the concessions he has demanded are merely intended to clarify the agreement.

"It's going back and forth a little bit," Bush told reporters during a brief question-and-answer session in the Oval office. "But all I want to know is that the agreement is clear. No point in having an unclear agreement."

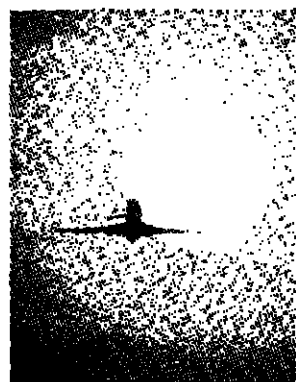
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## KUWAIT ... GULF

ARAB TIMES, THURSDAY-FRIDAY, MARCH 30-31, 1989

# ROPME anti-pollution protocol signed

### Mine clearing talks to be held today

KUWAIT, March 29. (Reuters): Ruptured Iran and Iraq joined forces today to combat pollution in the Gulf, capping years of talks that continued through their eight-year-long war.

They also agreed to hold further talks with Saudi Arabia and Bahrain tomorrow to tackle the issue of clearing an estimated 200 sea mines still littering the Gulf. Iran and Iraq are among eight countries sharing the Gulf coastline which signed a protocol setting out measures to control pollution from offshore gas and oil exploitation.

**Forum**  
All are members of the Regional Organisation for the Protection of the Marine Environment (ROPME). "For several years, this was the only forum where Iran and Iraq would meet at ministerial level," said one Arab delegate attending the talks in Kuwait. "They were not even meeting

at the United Nations." Iranian Deputy Prime Minister Hadi Manafi and Iraqi Health Minister Abdul Salam Mohammed Said joined officials from Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates at the signing ceremony today.

**Provisions**  
ROPME was formed in 1978, before the outbreak of the Gulf war in which a ceasefire has been in force since last August.

Among the protocol's provisions are that environmental assessments be made for new offshore operations and contingency plans drawn up for emergencies. It also sets limits on oil and sewage discharge and bans the dumping of plastics and garbage.

**Land-based sources**  
It makes no allowances however for co-ordination between countries in the event of a spill.

One delegate said ROPME would now try to draw up another agreement to prevent pollution of the sea from land-based sources such as sewage, dumping, air emissions and increased water temperatures caused by the region's many desalination plants.

"This one will be much trickier," he said. "But one thing ROPME has going for it is that it is one of the richest environmental organisations in the world."

## Over 100 persons donate blood daily

### Kuwait's blood bank self-sufficient

By Lima Al Khalafawi  
Arab Times staff

KUWAIT'S blood bank adopted the policy of self-sufficiency in 1968 and has since provided Kuwait and Arab countries with thousands of pints of various blood groups. The institution also helps in solving other problems related to blood transfusion, according to Dr Abdul Aziz Al Bashir, director of blood transfusion administration in Kuwait.

Dr Bashir, who is also chairman of the Arab Scientific Authority for Blood Transfusion, told the Arab Times that daily blood donations range between 100 to 200.

**Disease free**  
Donors are medically examined to ensure that they are free of contagious diseases such as diabetes, hepatitis, venereal diseases and heart problems. The official said that the bank also runs ELIASIS tests to detect the AIDS virus. He added that two cases of AIDS were discovered by the blood bank in 1985 and 1987 — both non-Kuwaitis who have since left the country.

The mass media has been used to obtain the co-operation of the



Abdul Aziz Al Bashir

public and to increase the number of donors, Dr Bashir said. The blood bank keeps a reference file for each donor, based on a comprehensive survey of their general health and serum conditions.

He added that the blood bank produces the following substances: whole blood, plasma cells, platelet-rich plasma, washed red cells, free-washed red cells, frozen fresh plasma, platelet concentrate, and others.

The official said that the blood bank helps in the treatment of certain diseases where antibiotics make very little impression due to the presence of either antigens or antibodies.

**Problems**  
The bank helps those who have problems of antibodies in blood circulation, others of autoimmune diseases, and people having 2 antibodies or more due to different antigens. Such cases make it difficult to find blood for the patient. "We spend sometimes three or four days searching before we can find one single person who lacks antigens for the antibodies the patient possesses," Dr Bashir said.

He added that the bank uses three systems for storing the blood: storing the blood in liquid state by using anti-coagulant for daily use, storing blood by deep-freezing at minus 80 Centigrade for 3 years, and freezing blood by using liquid nitrogen at minus 196 Centigrade for storage of more than 10 years.

Dr Bashir mentioned that blood bank will soon help to start liver transfusions, where an adult patient needs 20 units of blood per operation.

## Human error responsible for 90 per cent of all car crashes

A SYMPOSIUM on "Car and Road Safety" was opened yesterday under the patronage of Sheikh Salem Sabah Al Salem Al Sabah, Minister of the Interior, who deputised Brigadier Fouad Musa'ed Al Saleh, the director-general of the Traffic Department, to attend on his behalf.

Professor Dr Dieter Diekmann, a world renowned specialist from Germany invited by Al-Bashir & Alkazemi, who organised the symposium on the occasion of their Four Dimensions of Safety Exhibition, gave a comprehensive lecture on "Car and Road Safety".

**Views**  
The symposium provided an excellent opportunity for leading experts on traffic management in Kuwait to share their views and experiences regarding road and vehicle safety and ways to improve awareness for safety among motorists.

Addressing the gathering Prof Diekmann provided a rare insight on the relationship between the human being, the vehicle and the road. He discussed the subject in detail and said that "anybody driving along a road is under a certain tension."

He described active safety as "all those measures which serve to prevent the occurrence of an accident including early handling good concerning ability and good braking capacity."

He stressed: "The stress relieving safety covers favourable vibration characteristics of the vehicle, low noise levels, good air-conditioning and good visual and operational safety."

Prof Diekmann also explained the effect of noise, vibration and other factors on the passenger in the vehicle. He added that vision — seeing clearly — is the major prerequisite for driving and good vision, he said, increases safety.

**Causes**  
Commenting on the general causes of accidents, Prof Diekmann disclosed that technical defects were responsible for a small percentage of accidents while human error was responsible for 90 per cent of all crashes.

He added that the important criteria for a traffic guidance system include increased traffic safety, improved traffic flow, reduced noise level and air pollution and reduced energy consumption.

## Hoax bomb call

### Boeing 727 lands in Kuwait

By a staff reporter

A KAC Boeing 727 chartered to Emirates Airlines on a scheduled flight from Amman to 'Dubai' made an emergency landing at Kuwait International Airport Tuesday night with 129 passengers and crew on board.

According to sources, 20 minutes after take-off from Amman the captain received a radio message from the Amman control tower cautioning him about the possibility of a bomb on board.

The aircraft tried to land at Saudi Arabia's Rafha airport, but aborted the landing as the airport was too small and visibility was poor. The plane then headed for Kuwait International Airport where top security and senior airport officials sealed off the airport in a bid to make necessary safety arrangements.

All passengers and crew were evacuated within 25 seconds of landing.

Five passengers were reported injured during the evacuation process, sources said. Four of the injured were admitted to the Orthopaedic Hospital, and the fifth to Farwaniya Hospital.

Sources added that a thorough search of the aircraft failed to locate the bomb, and the plane left for Dubai at 1.00 am.

Investigations into a "hoax call" which triggered the alert are now in progress.

## BAHRAIN DIGEST

### Commercial registration by post

COMMERCIAL firms in Bahrain may be able to renew their commercial registration by paying fees through banks from the start of next year in a bid to streamline procedures and reduce paperwork and time.

At the beginning of this year the Directorate of Commerce and Company Affairs introduced a measure allowing payment and renewal to be made by post. New registrations however must be made directly at the directorate.

Another significant change was made in the billing system. In addition to individual invoices for each branch, the businesses were sent a statement of account totalling up the amount they had to pay.

Dr Abdullah Mansour, Director of Commerce and Company Affairs said eventually the directorate will ask for only the statement of account and substitute individual bills with some sort of certification which can be displayed.

The directorate launched the renewal of fees by post scheme this year to make it easier for traders and reduce time spent on the work. But the director said the postal scheme did not come up to expectations.

### Gulf Schools Festival from May 15

THE First Gulf Schools Festival being organised by United Schools International Arab Regional Office will take place from May 15-18. The festival was originally planned for January this year but was postponed due to unforeseen circumstances.

The festival is a pioneering venture to assemble teachers and students from all over the Gulf in Bahrain for a four-day cultural festival and brainstorming sessions. The latter will evolve ways to enrich the cultural milieu of the Gulf countries through concerted efforts of schools. Participants will form two commissions. One will discuss the problems of students arriving or departing on parents' transfer to or from the Gulf.

According to Jyoti Lal Jain, secretary-general of USI Arab Regional Offices, new students face a whole lot of problems in schools. It is an area where much thought could be devoted to facilitate their initiation and settlement.

The festival programme will consist of competitions in solo and group dances, one-act plays, English declamation contest and painting on the spot. Each contest will have divisions in age: 9-12 and 13-18.

**Delegations**  
The Minister of Public Health will deliver a speech on the occasion of World Health Day and receive delegations of students and nurses. Festivities

nation-wide attempt to combat smoking. He said that the percentage of male smokers in Kuwait dropped from 52 to 36 between 1979 and 1988.

planned will be implemented on a nation-wide scale with special lectures on topics of health. Momen said.

The health awareness division has published special flyers, manuals and posters to be distributed on the occasion, and contests on general health education will be held. Momen concluded.

# UK, Gulf to combat drugs and terrorism

### Hurd to arrive in Kuwait, Friday

NICOSIA, March 29. (Reuters): British Home Secretary Douglas Hurd in Oman today discussed co-ordination with Gulf Arab states in the war against terrorism and drugs, a British embassy official said.

"His talks (in the Gulf) will focus on co-ordination and exchange of information in the field of drugs and terrorism," the Muscat-based diplomat said by telephone.

**Action**  
Hurd, on a Gulf tour, arrived in Oman from Bahrain yesterday night is expected to meet Sultan Qaboos Bin Said before he flies to Kuwait on Friday.

In Bahrain, Hurd called for international action to seize the assets of drug smugglers. He said he hoped the states he

was visiting would sign agreements with Britain on confiscating drug assets and would ratify the latest UN convention on the drug trade.

**Penalty**  
Hurd will visit Saudi Arabia which in 1987 introduced the death penalty for convicted traffickers.

Officials say drug trafficking dropped in the kingdom by 40 per cent after several smugglers were beheaded in public.

Hurd told reporters in Bahrain he had also discussed with officials there ways of preventing terrorism through additional training of police and security personnel and rapid exchange of information.

"The more I study the inter-

national drug trade, the clearer I become that international action is an essential part of the answer ... and that includes action to confiscate the assets of the traffickers," he told reporters in Bahrain.

"Obviously a man hopes he will not be caught — but if he is caught, he hopes that the money he has made will be safe, either for himself or his wife and children," he said.

Hurd arrived in Bahrain on Monday at the start of a Gulf tour aimed at seeking Arab support in the war against drug smuggling and terrorism.

Hurd met Bahrain's Amir Sheikh Isa Bin Salman Al Khalifa and Crown Prince Sheikh Hamed Bin Isa Al Khalifa during his two-day visit.

### 70 per cent of stage one complete

## Farwaniya telephone project to introduce 10,000 lines

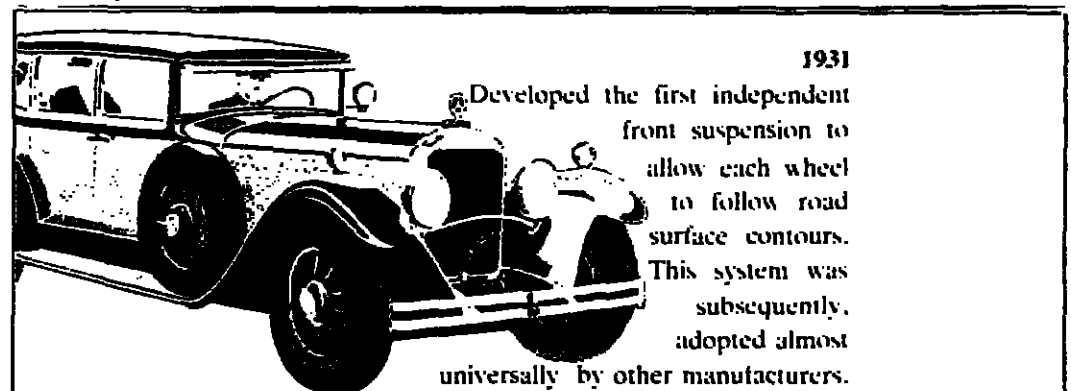
THE second stage of the telephone network development project in Farwaniya will introduce 10,000 new lines, according to Faisal Al Omar, director of the Telephone Network Maintenance and Installation Department at the Ministry of Communications.

He added that stage one of this project is devoted to the relocation of subscribers' lines from Farwaniya to the Jleeb Al Shiyoukh exchange office and is intended to reduce pressure on the former. About 70 per cent of this job has been completed.

**Maintenance**  
Omar disclosed that the ministry had a special plan to expand the capacity of existing exchanges in

various areas depending on subscribers' requirements. Another plan envisages providing regular maintenance services to telephone networks to reduce service dislocations caused by rainfall during winter. He added that the plan involved regular check-ups of cables to ensure speedy repair of sudden failures, which he attributed mostly to contractors' faults.

**Development**  
The director said the ministry has successfully supplied new areas such as Salaibiya, Oyoun, Ardiya and Sabah Al Salem with telephone services, and is currently in the process of installing line cables to service other areas.



- 1931 Developed the first independent front suspension to allow each wheel to follow road surface contours. This system was subsequently adopted almost universally by other manufacturers.
- 1936 Mercedes-Benz develop the rigid-frame floor pan.
- 1949 Mercedes-Benz patent safety door lock is introduced.
- 1951 Mercedes-Benz develop the world's first safety body shell.
- 1959 First systematic crash and roll-over test programme.
- 1961 Servo-assisted disc brakes are introduced on all four wheels to reduce driver effort.
- 1967 Mercedes-Benz safety steering assembly.
- 1968 Front head-restraints are introduced to lessen the risk of "whiplash" neck injuries.
- 1970 Announcement of the anti-lock braking system (ABS).

## Over the years no one has done more for safety than Mercedes-Benz

- 1973 Front seatbelts and head restraints become standard equipment.
- 1979 ABS is introduced on production models.
- 1981 Mercedes-Benz are the first and still the only manufacturer to offer automatic belt-tensioners.
- 1983 Mercedes-Benz are first to engineer an improved impact energy dispersal system.
- 1987 ASD (automatic locking differential) is introduced.
- 1988 ASR "Anti-skid control" and 4-Matic are introduced. Developed from the technology of ABS (anti-lock braking system) and ASD.

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You are cordially invited to a special safety exhibition in our showroom in Shuwaikh (Jahra Road) from March 26th - March 31st '89 between 9-1 pm and 4-9 pm.

## Air defence exercises concluded

Air Force officers installing a missile launcher at the conclusion yesterday of the four day annual exercises of the Air Defence Brigade. Air Force fighter jets and ammunition were used in the exercise known as Burgan II. Director of the training department Col. Rashid Saif attended part of the exercises.

## Exorbitant airport costs

### Landing charges to be reviewed

IN view of the exorbitant rise in construction costs of Kuwait's International Airport, landing fees will have to be reviewed, according to a senior airport official.

In an interview with a local daily, Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Sabah, director-general for civil aviation said that according to operating policies at international airports, amounts spent on the construction of airports are reimbursable.

He added that the review is not aimed at increasing the financial burdens of airlines, which might lead to an increase in airfares creating a burden on passengers. He stressed the importance of realising a balance between the interest of airlines and that of the public.

Speaking on airport security, Sheikh Jaber said that Kuwait was a signatory to several international pacts including the Tokyo International Pact in 1963, the Hague Accords in 1970, the Montreal Agreement in 1971 and its complement protocol in 1988.

He went on to state that other measures to enhance security are being planned in Kuwait. He called on passengers and airlines to co-operate with governmental authorities in this respect.

The current situation in the aviation market is neither favourable to airline companies nor to travellers, he said. Agreed fares should not be undercut to prevent the directorate from applying the law No. 31/1987 related to illegal practices in this respect, Sheikh Jaber said.

## New timings from April 1 at post offices

THE postal department at the Ministry of Communications has said that beginning April 1, 1989 business hours at postal stations and post offices will be as follows:

Administrative sections, parcel post delivery office-Kaifan and parcel section — Ahmadi will remain open from 7.00 am to 1.00 pm Sat-Wed and from 7.00 am - 11.00 am on Thursdays; Fridays closed.

Mail sorting centre, GPO, Safat Post office, Muntazapost section and transport section will remain open from 7.00 am to 7.00 pm Sat-Thursday and from 8.00 am - 10.00 am on Fridays. Salmya GPO, Jahra GPO, Hawalli and Fahaheel GPO: from 7.00 am to 7.00 pm Sat-Thursday; Friday closed.

Surface mail exchange office: Sat-Thursday: 7.00 am to 1.00 pm and on Fridays 8.00 am to 10.00 am.

Ahmadi post office: Sat-Wed: 7.00 am to 7.00 pm, Thursdays 7.00 am 3.00 pm. Friday closed.

Zour, Shuaiba, Nuwaiseeb and Wafra post offices: Sat-Wed: 7.30 am 2.30 pm. Closed on Thursdays and Fridays.

International Airport terminal II: open day and night. All other post offices: Sat-Wed: 8.00 am to 2.00 pm. Thursdays: 8.00 am to 12.00 noon. Fridays closed.

**Health official calls for increased funding in anti-smoking campaign**  
HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah will patronise World Health Day, scheduled for April 5.

Speaking at a press conference held to discuss Kuwait's Health Week festivities, Dr Hussein Al Momen said that October 28 has been selected as a day of abstinence from smoking by the GCC member states.

The decision to increase the customs tariff on cigarettes is to be supported and the public media should actively highlight the ill-effects of smoking and increase public awareness on cultivating an aversion to smoking, Momen said.

He attached great importance to awareness-raising health programmes as a way of counteracting the propaganda of tobacco manufacturers, and call for an increase in the financial allocation to fund anti-smoking campaigns.

Momen lauded the efforts exerted by the Anti-Smoking Society to combat the increase in the number of smokers and stressed the need for a concentrated

naun-wide attempt to combat smoking. He said that the percentage of male smokers in Kuwait dropped from 52 to 36 between 1979 and 1988.

Delegations  
The Minister of Public Health will deliver a speech on the occasion of World Health Day and receive delegations of students and nurses. Festivities

planned will be implemented on a nation-wide scale with special lectures on topics of health. Momen said.

The health awareness division has published special flyers, manuals and posters to be distributed on the occasion, and contests on general health education will be held. Momen concluded.



## ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

THE worst vice of a fanatic is his sincerity — Oscar Wilde, Irish-born writer (1854-1900).

## OPINION

## Breathe new life into stock market

WHEN prices of US shares dropped sharply in what has come to be known as Black Monday, quick remedial actions were taken. One such action was the suspension of some dealings such as selling without the presence of the shareholder. All such actions were aimed at improving the stock market.

There are many beneficial pointers the Kuwait Stock Market could take from the world stock markets to improve local share prices which are retreating daily.

What would be the harm if the government perused some of the salient points from the experience of world stock markets and adopted them to improve local overall stock performances?

We say this because a point of exhaustion has been reached due to various contradictory policies issued by various ministries.

Why cannot the stock market have an independent authority to run it and be directly under the supervision of the prime minister or even under the highest authority in the country?

Instead of incorporating the cream of concepts from other world stock markets which contribute to improving the functioning and performance of their own stocks, we in this country — after the Manakh crisis or the so-called stock market crash issued laws tainted with doubt and suspicion. The law treats anyone investing in the stock market as if he were a thief.

The end result is that we have a rigid law for which we do not know who is to be held accountable. Perhaps the law was made to fit a certain period in time under specific circumstances — it is not suitable at present.

Let us only say that the law needs to be improved in a manner that ultimately will improve the performance of the stock market.

Let us present the following ideas and questions to the government:

- Why does the government not allow private investment funds without the involvement of the government?
- Why can we not have many more savings funds in the stock market as in other world stock markets?
- Why does the government allow banks and companies to increase their capital by issuing new shares? Why do such companies not distribute the 10 per cent of the shares purchased from the stock markets to their shareholders and then buy fresh to increase the demand of shares, instead of distributing cash?
- Why does the government continue to sell shares through its funds at a time when prices of shares are dropping?

It is vital that the government study these suggestions to determine how they could improve the performance and functioning of the Kuwait Stock Market.

Ahmed Al Jarallah

Confronting Zionists

## Heroic Land Day

KUWAIT, (KUNA): The Arab people celebrate the 13th Land Day anniversary on March 30.

The Land Day represents the courageous confrontation of the Zionist plans, by the people of Galilee in 1976, aiming at the seizure of more Arab territories to erect Israeli settlements and dispossess the original Palestinian citizens living there since 1948.

The unequitable confrontation between the unarmed Palestinians and the joint force of the Israeli armed occupation troops and settlers, resulted in the martyrdom of six Palestinian youths, the injury of at least 50 and the detention of 300 others.

In fact, this was in line with the original Zionist plan for usurping the Arab territories and uprooting the Palestinian citizens from their homeland in a bid to attract Jews in diaspora and establish "Israel" from the Nile to the Euphrates.

Galilee was the main target because it included 70 per cent of the total Palestinians according to the 1973 census, included in an Israeli report on developing the Galilee area of 1.5 million dunams.

The so-called 1976 Galilee development plan included two phases to be implemented by 1980 and 1990.

Ultimately Galilee would be transformed into an Israeli-majority resided area and an economic base. This would be eased up by establishing eight industrial villages, through the confiscation of at least 20,000 dunams of the Arab-owned territories.

The Palestinians of Galilee numbering 412,000 with an annual growth rate of 4.1 compared to 1.7-2.6 per cent for Israelis, responded by rejecting the Judaisation of their territories and staged a general strike on March 30, 1976.

In principle and since inception of Arab territories. The struggle hinged on impeding Zionist settlers from residing on the pretext of establishing their national homeland over the Arab Palestinian soil.

The Zionist plans to seize the Palestinian and Arab territories reached climax by the 1976 Israeli aggression.

## TODAY IN HISTORY

1603 — Earl of Tyrone, Irish rebel, submits to Lord Mountjoy at Mellifort.

1772 — Robert Clive defends his administration of Bengal in India at hearing in England's House of Commons.

1806 — Joseph Bonaparte becomes king of Naples.

1820 — Duc de Richelieu re-establishes censorship of French press.

1842 — Ether reputedly is used as anaesthetic for first time — by Dr Crawford Long in United States.

1855 — Treaty of Peshawar, whereby Britain and Afghanistan form alliance against Persia; End of Taiping rebellion in China.

1863 — Denmark incorporates Schleswig; Poland is divided into provinces by Russia.

1885 — Russian occupation of Penjdeh, Afghanistan, provokes crisis in Anglo-Russian relations.

1905 — Greeks in Crete revolt against Turkish rule.

1912 — Sultan of Morocco signs treaty making Morocco a French protectorate.

1933 — James B.M. Hertzog forms national coalition in South Africa and is joined by Jan C. Smuts.

1940 — Japan establishes puppet government in occupied China.

1967 — North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) formally closes its military headquarters in France.

1974 — Chinese jetliner arrives in New York in what is described as first civilian flight from Chinese mainland to United States.

1988 — Sikh militants kill 15 people on overnight attacks in northern Indian state of Punjab.

## To be a child in Afghanistan is not easy

## Blazing light descends from sky

By Earleen Fisher



A badly wounded Afghan boy brought to a Kabul hospital.

KABUL, (AP): Aminullah was playing near the airport when a blazing point of light descended from the sky and burned his face, arms and legs.

The device doctors say will leave Aminullah scarred for life was one of the thousands of flares unleashed daily by airplanes over Kabul to deflect the heat-seeking missiles fired by anti-communist guerrillas.

The flares, which arc out of the sky trailing a plume of white smoke, are a common sight — as much a part of the Kabul panorama as the snow-capped mountains surrounding the city of mud-brick houses and open sewers.

But they are still a mystery to Aminullah and his mother, Gul Banu, a widow with three other children.

"There is no special warning programme about the flares," said Dr Lal Mohammad who attends burn victims at the Indira Gandhi Children's Hospital. "We tell the women who bring their children here to spread the word to the others."

He said as many as six children are admitted each week to the Gandhi Hospital with severe burns caused by the flares that are fired or dropped by Afghan military and civilian planes and Soviet cargo planes. No statistics are available on the total number of flare victims in the Kabul area.

Aminullah, who like many Afghans does not use a family name, sat on a table in the burn ward, his arms held stiffly in front of him as doctors applied solutions.

The top half of his face, from the scalp to the bridge of his nose, was a brown crust with glistening red cracks. Burned tissue had been removed from his cheek and chin, which were a translucent pink.

He cried as a doctor snipped at flaps of dangling burn tissue. Eight other children in the room had similar burns and were varying states of recovery.

Mohammad said most of the flare victims suffered second-degree burns and their wounds usually were not life-threatening.

But to be a child in Afghanistan is not easy, even in peacetime. According to the United Nations Children's Fund, 30 per cent of all children born in the country die before the age of five. Diseases claim most of the youngsters.

In 1960, when there was relative peace in this nation of constant political and tribal feuds, harsh winters and 75 per cent illiteracy, the child mortality rate was 38 per cent.

Government-operated television shows the children of war almost every night as it denounces the US-backed guerrillas who are fighting to overthrow the Marxist government of President Najibullah.

The decade-old war has claimed an estimated one million lives from the pre-war population of 15 million.

The government seldom fails to say that victims of a guerrilla attack "included many women and children."

On Sunday, the government said the guerrillas had rocketed a bus on the Jalalabad-Kabul highway, killing all the passengers "including women and children". No death toll was given but Foreign Ministry spokesman Mohammad Nabi Amani said the bus was carrying at least 22 people.

Amani said Monday an unknown number of the passengers survived, but no death toll was given.

On Tuesday, foreign reporters were taken to the Gandhi Hospital to see survivors of the attack.

Hospital staffers said they were treating two survivors — 10-year-old Shafullah and Abbasi, four — but adult victims were taken to other hospitals. The total number of dead and injured was not known.

Shafullah and Abbasi received shrapnel wounds in their legs, according to Dr Ashraf, head of the 250-bed hospital's orthopaedic section.

Shafullah was whimpering into the pillow. The doctor said he had just learned that his mother and two brothers died in the attack.

Ashraf said Abbasi's uncle and cousin were killed. Relatives of the victims said the boys were not on a bus. Instead, one said they were riding in a convoy of trucks carrying people out of Jalalabad, where the guerrillas have been besieging government forces for three weeks.

## Iran faces uncertain future after Khomeini ousts Montazeri

By Mohammad Zargham

NICOSIA, (Reuters): Iran faces an uncertain future after Ayatollah Khomeini forced out his designated successor in a major victory for hardline associates of the country's ageing spiritual leader.

Tehran residents said portraits of Ayatollah Hossein Ali Montazeri began to disappear from streets and government offices even before the official announcement on Tuesday evening that he had renounced the succession.

No clear replacement for the 66-year-old Montazeri has appeared, however. "The Tehran rumour mill is confused, with grossly conflicting speculations flying around," an analyst in the Iranian capital said yesterday.

Tehran Radio and Iranian newspapers remained silent on Montazeri's departure.

Until recently he was hailed as "the hope of the Imam (Khomeini) and the nation" in official media. Montazeri had been selected to succeed Khomeini by an 83-member Assembly of Experts of senior Muslim clerics in 1985.

Political analysts said his removal was a big boost for radicals like Prime Minister Mir-Hossein Mousavi and Interior Minister Ali Akbar Mohtashemi, who advocate a militant anti-Western foreign policy and strict government controls in a state-dominated economy.

The leading moderate, parliamentary Speaker Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, has seen his star wane in recent weeks.

Rafsanjani, named by Khomeini in June last year to head the armed forces during a critical period of the Iran-Iraq war, has said he might be willing to run for the presidency in August. He had also been seen as a strong contender to succeed Khomeini politically.

Since then, Khomeini has issued several statements decrying accommodation with the West, feeding ammunition to radicals opposed to pragmatists — like Rafsanjani — who sought to tone down Iran's militant posture after last August's ceasefire in the Gulf war.

Montazeri, a long-time disciple of Khomeini, publicly complained shortly before the Rushdie row erupted that Iran had gained a reputation for murder.

In Paris, former Iranian President Abolhasan Bani Sadr released letters said to be written by Montazeri to Khomeini in July last year in which Montazeri appealed for a halt to "thousands of executions" in which "many ... innocents and minor offenders" died.

Montazeri in his resignation letter released on Tuesday said he wanted to return to teaching theology. Khomeini said in reply he had opposed Montazeri's appointment to succeed him from the outset — but he did not say who he favoured as Iran's future spiritual leader.

Tehran residents say high inflation and heavy taxes have caused widespread dissatisfaction around the country. But Khomeini last week told officials not to let economic concerns divert them from the main task of spreading Islam after Rafsanjani publicly asked him to intervene to solve problems of inflation and unemployment.

Khomeini's attacks on liberals in society and their supporters within the leadership have dashed hopes for a more open political scene.

## Hurdles for tourists

SIR: If you are planning to go on a tour during the forthcoming vacations, be prepared to cross the following hurdles at various embassies/consulates of the countries you intend to visit.

Many embassies/consulates require you to submit a guarantee letter from the sponsor along with the application form. Some are satisfied with only the leave letter but others insist on producing a guarantee letter from the sponsor ensuring your return. No sponsor is willing to do that. Even if I am a sponsor I will not do it.

Some embassies/consulates require at least a week to stamp the visa with a validity of one month or so. Now if you intend to visit five or six such countries you will never have all the visas valid because by the time you get the last one the first one would have already expired.

The visa fees for most of the countries have been increased manifold. There are very few countries which give you visa at less than KDS.

You get practically nothing in return for the high charges for visa. As a tourist you would be interested to have the basic information about the places of your visit, such as road maps, list of places of interest, hotels with their tariffs, etc. You can collect all the information from them except the one you want.

Where consular service counters are manned by persons recruited locally, you should not expect a decent, polite and co-operative behaviour. After all, these people are forced to face all kinds of odd queries from you with a limited knowledge of the country and restricted discretionary powers.

I request all embassies/consulates to make tourism to their countries more attractive and pleasant right from providing a visa.

U.C. Sharma,

Salmiya.

## Incorrect information

SIR: According to Air-India summer schedule published in the Arab Times (March 26), the weekly Kuwait/Goa flight will reach Goa on Tuesdays at 9.30 am. This is incorrect.

Air-India's weekly Goa flight for the next four weeks will reach Dabolim on Tuesdays only after 11 am and not 9.30 am as announced. Kuwait/Goa passengers will have to wait at Sahar (Bombay) airport for five hours.

Whereas, Indian Airlines flight to Goa leaves around 8.30 am arriving Goa at 9.30 am. This change in timings is due

to work on Bombay airport's runways which will continue till April 18.

What is pertinent is the fact that Air-India has given a slot for Bombay/Goa take-off at 8.30 am, whereas Indian Airlines have a regular Bombay/Goa flight at noon.

Air-India's flight on Sundays from Kuwait to Bombay via New Delhi is almost a seven-hour journey. AI's suggestion that Goans utilise their Frankfurt flight leaving Bombay for Goa at 2.30 pm is not in Goans' interest. For the next four weeks it is better that Goans utilise Indian Airlines from Bombay to Goa.

Vincent D'Souza, Safat.

## Trying to be in good books

SIR: By writing the letter Kuwait-Goa flight (AT, March 9) Vincent D'Souza is trying to be in good books with Air-India.

Where was D'Souza when the Goans suffered due to Air-India Maharaja pilots' reported sickness before the departure of their flight. After enduring hardship at the Bombay airport, people reached Goa after two days of travel. Even brain tumour patients were among these passengers.

Travel agents clearly inform their passengers the departure and arrival time of flights and it is not necessary to publish it in the letters to the editor column. Is he acting as an information officer of Air-India?

Does he know how many times AI has rescheduled the summer flights to Goa. Why doesn't he speak of the rescheduling and inconvenience caused to the Goans due to rebooking to suit children and their holidays? Let the Goans know that they have only one incoming and outgoing flight on Mondays. The other transit flight is not considered as a direct flight and such flight can be taken with any other carrier interconnected with Indian Airlines from Goa.

In future the Goans should form a committee before any matter is taken up so that it benefits all Goans and not individual.

Tony Joseph Lobo, Safat.

Vincent D'Souza comments: I welcome the views of the writer and would request more Goans to give their reaction to the Goa flight problem to improve Air-India operations to Goa.

## Seeking publicity

SIR: I admire your efforts in bringing out a beautiful supplement on Pakistan Day. You have published a detailed feature on the different activities of Pakistani organisations in Kuwait. They claim doing a yeoman service to the community at large which I decline to accept.

Most of these institutions bother about their own publicity. Their activities are confined only to mushairas, cricket, entertainment and religion. They have no time to look into the affairs of Pakistani schools where the management and the principals harass their teachers.

Most of the principals are not fit for the post. It is surprising that English medium schools are run by the principals and staff who themselves do not speak English. They speak Punjabi or Urdu. Here the teachers are appointed without any interview or good qualification and experience.

The standard of education is deteriorating day by day in Pakistani schools in Kuwait.

Sadiq Mahmood, Rumelthiya.

## Complaints against KPTC

SIR: The decision by the Kuwait Public Transport Company to increase prices of season tickets has hit hard a section of passengers. KPTC has also ignored several complaints as mentioned below.

Smoking in the KPTC buses should be completely stopped.

Anyone found smoking inside the bus should be fined heavily or told to leave the bus immediately. The driver and the conductor should bear full responsibility.

There should be reserved seats for ladies in front. It should be the duty of the driver and the conductor to inform any male passenger sitting in the front seats to take the back seat.

The above two rules should be strictly implemented and the rules must be prominently displayed in all KPTC buses in both Arabic and English.

There is no meaning in calling bus No. 502 an express service as this bus stops at all stands and passes through newly introduced lanes even if there are no passengers.

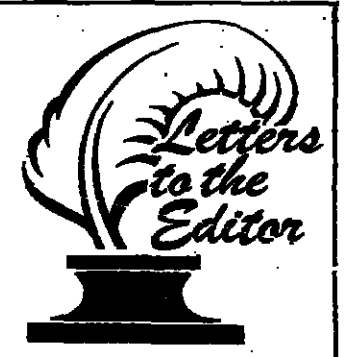
Previously this bus used to take 45 minutes but now it takes more than one hour and 15 minutes. We request the KPTC to kindly review this situation and make bus No. 502, a really express service.

Regularly dissatisfied passengers, (Name and address supplied).

## Expats need job security

SIR: My father always discouraged me from coming to Kuwait by saying it is uncertain here, jobs are insecure and there are visa problems, but I did not listen.

I came to Kuwait 11 years ago and now I experience the very same problems my father used to talk about. I am always depressed, lonely and fear I may lose my job at any time.



My school companions who took up jobs in India are quite happy though they earn less than me.

Expatriates here are not interested in Kuwait's politics but wish the Kuwaitis good and ask God to make this country more prosperous. What we need is job security and respect.

(Name and address supplied)

## Misspelt

SIR: I bring to your notice that the word oxygen engraved on the metal board in room No. 4, ward No. 3 (female) section at Al Razi Hospital is misspelt as "oxigen".

It is wrong to misspell words in a hospital. People could misunderstand things leading to disaster. I hope the authorities concerned will correct it.

Bashir Mirza, Dahiya Abdullah Salem.

ALL letters to the Editor must contain the writer's name and address. Publication is at the discretion of the Editor and letters are subject to the editing process for space or other reasons.



مكروا من ياحمل

WIDEAST

# Israel on alert for Land Day

## 400,000 people under curfew

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, March 29, (AP): Israeli police heightened security today in preparation for Arab "Land Day" protests, which officials fear might spread the violence of the Palestinian uprising into Arab towns in Israel.

Land Day, which falls tomorrow, marks the March 30, 1976, confrontation in which six Arabs were shot to death by Israeli soldiers as the Arabs protested government confiscation of Arab land.

In the 13 years since the killings, the day has become an annual occasion for Arab protest.

## 'Stop arming mujahedeen'

### Call for UN inquiry

WASHINGTON, March 29, (Agencies): The Soviet Union says US refusal to stop arming rebels in Afghanistan could lead to a wider conflict in southwest Asia.

Two Soviet diplomats, at a news conference yesterday, urged US Secretary of State James A. Baker III to reconsider a Soviet proposal for a mutual arms embargo.

"So far, the American side is reluctant to accept our proposal," said Oleg Derkovsky, a counsellor at the Soviet embassy in Washington.

He said Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard A. Shevardnadze is likely to renew the appeal when Baker goes to Moscow in May.

Derkovsky said fighting between the mujahedeen and the Afghan government is escalating and could involve India and Iran, as the two countries seek to protect their interests.

The Soviet diplomat said the two countries were concerned that Pakistan might try to arrange a federation with Afghanistan should the rebels succeed in overthrowing President Najib's government.

"People have to be very careful of avoiding incidents that could lead to a larger conflict," Yevgeny Kutovoy, minister-counsellor of the embassy, said.

The two diplomats accused the United States and Pakistan of illegally arming the rebels and said the United Nations should conduct an inquiry and consider posting monitors at the country's borders.

The diplomats also recalled predictions that Najib's government would collapse "like a house

of cards" after the Feb 15 departure of Soviet troops.

The Soviet-backed Afghan leader and his Army "have shown most convincingly they are prepared to uphold on their own the country's sovereignty," Kutovoy said.

Soviet troops backed the government in Kabul against the US-armed rebels for nine years.

Kutovoy accused Pakistan of training and arming rebel forces in "extensive subversive and terrorist activities" to overthrow Najib's government. He said Pakistani officers were directing attacks and that Pakistani servicemen have been captured deep inside Afghanistan.

Pakistan's involvement calls for a special investigation by the United Nations and UN monitoring of the Geneva accord of last April that barred outside intervention in the Afghan war, Kutovoy said.

Najib, in his most far-reaching peace bid yet, has offered mujahedeen rebels local autonomy if they agree to end the 10-year war.

In a speech transmitted on Kabul Radio and beamed to rebel field commanders he said: "The main point ahead of all of us is to stop the war and the bloodshed."

● Najib urged UN Secretary-General Javier de Cuellar to take immediate measures and prevent Pakistan from transferring weapons to rebels fighting inside Afghanistan.

● Soviet UN Ambassador Aleksandr M. Belonogov said yesterday his country wants UN military observers posted between Afghanistan and Pakistan to stop cross-border raids by the rebels.

● Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin urged changing Israeli law to allow more deportations of Palestinians, and the Army put more than 400,000 people in the occupied territories under curfew today to block expected Arab protest demonstrations.

The Army sealed off the occupied lands for 24 hours today and curfewed the entire Gaza Strip.

Soldiers moved early today to contain threats of violence by confining more than 400,000 Palestinians to their homes, with curfews clamped on 13 towns and refugee camps in Gaza and the West Bank.

The restrictions tomorrow were likely to include a curfew on the entire Gaza Strip which would confine more than 700,000 Palestinians at home, Haaretz and the Yediot Ahronot daily said.

Police were also on high alert in northern Israel's Galilee, with reconnaissance aircraft and hundreds of armed troops on standby in case of riots by Israeli Arabs, officials said.

In the Galilee, where most Israeli Arabs live, Palestinian flags were unfurled today on mosques or electrical wires and pro-PLO slogans were scribbled on village walls, police said.

Rabin's remarks came last night in response to motions from right-wing legislators about recent attempted Palestinian guerrilla infiltrators from Lebanon.

Asked why Israel has not targeted any military action against the mainstream Fatah wing headed by PLO chief Yasser Arafat, Rabin said, according to Haaretz: "Fatah is not a priority of the Israeli defence forces because it targets those who plan attacks on Israel."

The Arab League's UN observer said yesterday the UN secretary-general was beginning consultations with the five permanent members of the Security Council on convening a Middle East peace conference.

A UN spokesman was unable to confirm the report and a council source said he was unaware of such talks.

## Thorny issue of Cairo's readmission to Arab League avoided in talks



Mubarak (right) and King Fahd wave to thousands of cheering people as they arrive at the Suez Canal town of Ismailia. (Reuter wirephoto)

## Fahd extends visit to Egypt

### Red-carpet reception

CAIRO, March 29, (Agencies): King Fahd of Saudi Arabia decided today to add a day to his current official visit to Egypt, another sign of Cairo's return to Arab favour from political outcast.

Egyptian officials said the extension was to allow more time for talks between President Mubarak and the monarch. They said the new royal itinerary calls for Fahd's departure on Friday instead of Thursday as previously planned.

Fahd, the first Saudi monarch to visit Egypt since 1974, had several hours of talks with Mubarak yesterday during a trip to the Suez Canal city of Ismailia.

The Saudi King did not touch on the thorny issue of readmission to the 22-member Arab League — comprising 21 countries and the PLO.

On Wednesday, the Saudi and Egyptian leaders rode a slow-moving, whistle-stopping special train from Cairo through the Nile river delta to the Mediterranean city of Alexandria, where they planned to spend the night.

Egyptians have given Fahd a red-carpet reception wherever he has gone since his arrival on Monday from Iraq. Thousands of cheering people, many bused in for the occasion, lined motorcade routes to Cairo and Ismailia. In the Suez Canal, dozens of boats blew their whistles in greeting as Fahd and Mubarak made a one-hour cruise in a small boat.

By any standard, Fahd's treatment has been the most elaborate for any head of state since Richard Nixon in 1974. Then-President Anwar Sadat pulled out all stops for his American counterpart shortly after the United States brokered a disengagement agreement between Egypt and the Israel that led in 1979 to what remains the only peace treaty between an Arab country and the Jewish state.

And while Egypt remains outside the League due to opposition by Syria and Libya to ending the suspension, the leaders of Iraq, Jordan and North Yemen have vowed to boycott any Arab summit called before Egypt regains its League seat. The three and Egypt last month founded a supposedly economic grouping called the Arab Co-operation Council.

The pro-Egyptian decision, disclosed by Jordan's King Hussein last Saturday, practically rules out convening an Arab summit without advance assurances that the conference's first session will terminate Egypt's suspension.

Saudi Arabia is to host the next regular Arab summit. No date has been set, and King Fahd has been reported delaying action until inter-Arab quarrels are resolved. Friction exists mainly between Syria and Iraq and between Egypt and both Syria and Libya.

A major topic of Saturday's three-way summit and Fahd's talks with Mubarak was formulation of a unified Arab stand that Mubarak can present to the United States next week.

## Arabsat meeting

### Egypt to be readmitted

NICOSIA, March 29, (Reuters): Egypt will be readmitted to the Arab League's satellite communications organisation Arabsat when member states meet in Oman on Thursday, an official at Arabsat headquarters in Riyadh said.

Contacted by telephone on Wednesday the official said Egypt's return "is firm and the next Arabsat annual meeting will even be held in Cairo."

In 1979 most Arab states severed ties with Egypt and suspended its Arab League membership for signing a peace agreement with Israel.

## Safe passage

## US is a 'party' to Sudan genocide

NAIROBI, March 29, (Agencies): A US congressman charged on his return from rebel-held southern Sudan today that the United States "has been a party to genocide" in the war-torn region, where up to one million people have died since 1983.

Gary Ackerman, Democrat-New York, and two other US legislators returned to Nairobi sun-burned and exhausted in dust-covered khakis after spending two days visiting rebel camps and meeting insurgency leader John Garang in the recently captured town of Torit.

Speaking at a news conference, Ackerman sharply criticised US military aid between 1983 and 1986 to the Muslim-controlled government in Sudan, which has been fighting a vicious civil war against Garang's Christian rebels in the south.

"I think the US government has participated in genocide," Ackerman said.

United Nations officials estimate a quarter million people died of starvation last year in southern Sudan, where both sides have been accused of blocking food deliveries as a weapon of war. Up to one million may have died since 1983.

Another 100,000 people could die this year without a massive international relief effort headed by UNICEF, scheduled to begin April 1. Officials hope to ship 170,000 tons of food into the area before heavy rains close the roads in five to six weeks.

Garang has unequivocally pledged his forces will not interfere with shipments of relief food intended for thousands threatened with starvation in the region, the three congressmen said.

However, Garang stipulated free passage was guaranteed only as long as he was assured food and supplies were not going to Sudanese soldiers, said the congressmen.

Although the Sudanese rebels recently have indicated their support of what the United Nations is calling the largest relief effort in the Third World, Garang's comments to the congressmen were the first assurances from the rebel leader to be made public.

The UN along with donor governments and agencies hope to transport about 100,000 metric tons of food, medicine and other relief supplies to southern Sudan before the heavy annual rains which are expected to begin in May.

## Early polls inevitable: Turkish opposition

ANKARA, March 29, (Reuters): Turkey's main opposition party attacked Prime Minister Turgut Ozal today for clinging to office after his crushing defeat in nationwide local polls and said an early general election was inevitable.

"Sooner or later, within a year at most, Parliament must call for the anticipated elections. The people cannot be satisfied otherwise," Erdal Inan, leader of the Social Democrat Populist Party (SHP), told a news conference.

SHP won 28.4 per cent of the vote in Sunday's poll, followed by the centre-right True Path Party (DYP) with 25.3 per cent and Ozal's Motherland

Party (ANAP) with 21.9 per cent, a sharp reversal from its 36 per cent in the 1987 general election.

"After such a demonstration, ANAP cannot continue to rule as if nothing has happened. The Ozal government is now practically reduced to the status of a caretaker government," Inonu said.

Ozal, 61, a conservative who has been in office since three years of Army rule ended in 1983, is resisting calls for a snap poll, saying he plans to see out his term to 1992.

The Motherland won 292 of Parliament's 450 seats in 1987. SHP has 99 seats and DYP 59.

## Turkey warns Iran again

ANKARA, March 29, (AP): Turkey's Foreign Ministry summoned the Iranian ambassador yesterday and warned Tehran for the second time in a week not to interfere in Turkish affairs, an official said.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Inal Batu told the Associated Press that Iranian Ambassador Manoochehr Mottaki was "requested to give an explanation" about his reported announcement of economic sanctions against Turkey.

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SO many readers ask, "What do people in Washington do all day long?" Believe it or not, we are no different from super achievers in other parts of the country.

Most of the time we make telephone calls, leave messages and then wait for someone to return them. We measure our importance by how long it takes for a person to get back to us.

Because of this, many Washingtonians have become experts on the smoke-screen messages the secretaries are sending out to us when we call.

Here's one that is heard frequently: I phone and give my name. There is a pause of about 45 seconds, I am put on hold, and then the secretary returns and says, "He's not at his desk right now."

This makes me wonder, "How far is her desk from the boss' desk for the secretary to take 45 seconds to discover he is not there?" Once in a while, when I lose my temper, I say, "Well, if he's not at his desk, would you look and see if he is hanging outside the window?"

Many of the people I telephone are "in a meeting." Sometimes I

## The Art Buchwald Column He's out to lunch

want to know what kind of meeting. I ask, "Is it a Cabinet meeting, an executive meeting or a bowling team meeting?"

"What difference does it make?"

"I'd like to speak to him and the only meeting I won't interrupt is the one with the bowling team."

The excuse that always bothers me is, "Mr. Dominick is tied up at the moment." An image immediately comes to mind of Dominick tied to a chair with a gag over his mouth, listening to an IBM saleswoman trying to convince him to buy a new fax machine.

Another notorious excuse for not talking to me is, "Mr. Califano is out to lunch." What's wrong with this message is that my call is at 9:30 in the morning. So I ask the secretary to have him get back to me before dinner as I have a 2 o'clock dental appointment.

I have a terrible problem about being rejected on the phone. My fears run amok

when I call someone and he won't talk to me, although I am certain that he's there. In my mind I not only see him shaking his head at his secretary, indicating "no, no," but I also see his face breaking into a wide grin while he is doing it.

As the day goes on I keep imagining a large pile of pink slips on Califano's desk, and the one with my name on it is at the bottom. The worst part is that if I have to wait more than a few hours for the call to be returned, I usually forget what I telephoned about in the first place.

The most painful blow of all is when one's children don't call back. You leave a message on your daughter's answering machine and days go by, maybe weeks, until she telephones.

"Why didn't you get back to me?" I ask.

"I only listened to my messages this morning."

"Suppose it had been important?"

"Why are you calling if it



isn't important?"

In Washington, our livelihoods and our self-respect are hooked up to the phone. It is an instrument that can neither bring much happiness or a destroy a fragile ego overnight.

The only way to avoid letting the telephone call get you down is to make a game of it. I keep score. If someone calls me back within the hour, 3 points. If a person doesn't return my call within 24 hours, I deduct 15 points. At the end of the day I add it all up. If I have accumulated more points than I have lost, I figure I'm still someone in Washington who has to be reckoned with.

1989, Los Angeles Times Syndicate

Exhibit honours old US tradition

## Talking back to the government

By Mike Feinsilber

WASHINGTON (AP): If President George Bush wants assurance that the people will tell him when things are going just great, and not so great, all he has to do is wander down Pennsylvania Avenue to the National Archives, storehouse of the nation's records.

An exhibition there celebrates 200 years of the people petitioning the government — or giving it a piece of their mind.

Exhibit along those lines comes from a boy named Anthony, who was in school in Fair Lawn, New Jersey, when former President Gerald Ford pardoned his predecessor, president Richard M. Nixon, for the crimes of Watergate.

The Watergate scandal began with a break-in at the Democratic National Headquarters during the 1972 presidential campaign and crumbled Nixon's Republican administration. Anthony had a fixed opinion:

"Dear President Ford, 'I think you are half right and half wrong.' 'Yours truly, 'Anthony Ferreira.' Bush, replacing Reaganites with Bushites, also would

find familiar echoes in the 1789 complaint of Mary Katherine Goodard, who lost her job as postmaster of Baltimore, Maryland, after serving through the tough days of the revolutionary war.

Said her petition: "She had been discharged without the smallest imputations of any fault, and without any previous notice whatever ... these are but poor rewards indeed for 14 years faithful services, performed in the worst of times."

To no avail. She didn't get reinstated. The US constitution's first amendment gives the people the right "to petition the government for a redress of grievances." But even before the government existed, the US people were exercising their right to talk back to authority.

In 1773, the governor of Connecticut petitioned a member of the British parliament to protest the closing of the port of Boston, Massachusetts, in retaliation for the Boston tea party. He wrote, "We are at a loss to conceive how the destruction of the East India Company's tea could be a just or reasonable ground for punishing so severely thousands of innocent people."

Seventeen years later,

Pennsylvania Quakers petitioned for the abolition of slavery: "the blessings of liberty ... ought rightfully to be administered, without distinction of colour, to all descriptions of people."

Some petitions to government have been eloquent, some funny, some moving. Annie Davis, a slave from northern Maryland whose mistress refused to let her join her family, wrote to President Abraham Lincoln. She urgently wanted to know her status: "You will please let me know if we are free..."

One of the biggest petitions ever to reach Washington remains in the condition received in 1893 — rolled up on two huge wooden spoons nearly seven feet high. It consists of hundreds of sheets, taped together, bearing an estimated 150,000 signatures, appealing for a new bureaucracy.

Obligated "We the undersigned ... hereby most respectfully petition that there be founded ... a road department, similar to the agriculture department, for the purpose of promoting knowledge in the art of constructing and maintaining roads."

Congress obliged by creating the office of road inquiry in the department of agricul-

ture. Must have pleased the petition's creator, a bicycle manufacturer.

Few petitions have had as deep an impact as the one Earl Gideon wrote in pencil in 1961 from his prison cell in Bay county, Florida, where he was serving five years for breaking into a poolroom. "The question is very simple. I requested the court to appoint me an attorney and the court refused."

The supreme court agreed. Its landmark Gideon decision upheld the right of poor defendants to be represented by lawyers, at the public expense if need be. In the midst of the depression, Franklin Roosevelt got a petition from some young citizens of a school in Hyde Park, New York, protesting the removal of a teacher: "Do we have to have another teacher when we want Mrs. Sheridan so much? Mr. Roosevelt you do so many big things, can't you find a way to help us in this little thing? Because this is a big thing to us kids. It's a pretty tough 'new deal' for us young Democrats and Republicans."

But even FDR knew the limits of his powers. Mrs. Sheridan, like postmistress Goodard, didn't get her job back, the petitions of the people notwithstanding.

## Queen's English is expanding

Ding Bat, bionic chopper, acid head, nosejob are new entries in the Oxford English Dictionary

By Matt Rees

LONDON, (UPI): If you are an AC-DC acid head with a nose-job who goes ape and bad-mouths a dingbat who is a real downer before you blow out on your bionic chopper, then you and your actions merit 10 entries in the second edition of the Oxford English Dictionary.

"Bad," or rather good, you say? Those terms, along with 'antiquark,' 'Diner's Club' and an LSD-taking 'acid freak,' are all new entries in the half-million words defined by the second edition of the Oxford English Dictionary.

If you want to find out what an antiquark is, it will cost you \$2,500 for the full 20-volume set of the updated OED, published on March 30. You might also consider transportation costs, because a set weighs in at 137.72 pounds and will take up 44 inches of your shelf.

Alternatively, you could take advantage of a major new advance, the transfer of all 21,728 pages onto a single computer disc.

The first edition of this definitive document of the English language was begun in 1884 by Scottish schoolmaster James Murray. He filed 2 tons of definitions and illustrative

quotations from everyone from Geoffrey Chaucer to Charles Darwin into pigeonholes around his home, first in London, then in Oxford.

Murray died at the age of 78 in 1915 when the OED had reached 'TA.' Three other scholars completed his work in 1928 and a supplement containing new coinages appeared in 1933. But the language failed to stay within the covers of the dictionary and four more supplements had to be published between 1962 and 1986.

The new edition has occupied 36 scholars full time since 1984 behind the columns and sandstone of the Oxford University Press' grand headquarters in Oxford, 50 miles (80 km) west of London, as well as numerous assistants in the United States and Canada.

The problems in cataloging the diversities of a language, which philologists say is growing at a rate of 450 words per year, were great.

Nightmare Even literary quotations have become a potential nightmare now that they include colloquialisms and words coined by James Joyce, Virginia Woolf and Tom Wolf.

"When Murray began, what was written and printed in Victorian London was proper

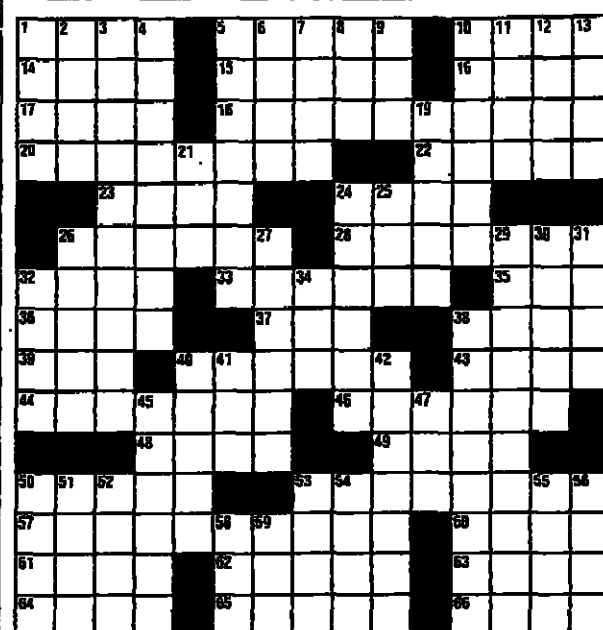
English," Edmund Wiener, one of the co-editors of the dictionary, said. He said that today's English language is another matter entirely.

The new edition had to respond to developments in science, with such phrases as 'acid rain' and 'cruise missile' entering the corpus. Business jargon comes into play with 'amex' and 'petro-currency,' while the medical terms 'AIDS-related,' the AIDS drug 'AZT' and 'HIV' are among the sadder entries.

Slang, the lexicographers say, is both the biggest headache and greatest source. If that acidhead with a nose job wants to find out how many references there are in the dictionary to those of a similar description, there is no need to plough through its 249,300 etymologies and 577,000 crossreferences. Simply feed a single disc into the computer and what once would have been a search of weeks or months produces immediate rewards.

Samuel Johnson prepared his famous 18th century 'dictionary' alone and with quotations entirely from memory — he even had a quote from Shakespeare to illustrate the word 'an' — but transferring the OED on to disc was a more complicated process.

## TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- Bureaucracy, with "red"
  - Dads
  - Church recess
  - Composer
  - Khachaturian
  - Fine-feathered bird
  - Earth
  - California wine-growing valley
  - Computers of a kind
  - Shorthand notebook
  - Oklahoma oil center
  - Unusual
  - Basic unit of matter
  - Thespians
  - Ecclesiastical cap
  - Goal of 26 Across
  - Hughes' — Goose
  - Positive word
  - Part of the eye
  - Musical syllables
  - Oil canal
  - Weather norms: Abbr.
  - Showered
  - I came, to Caesar
  - Part of EST
- DOWN**
- Summer shades
  - Smell
  - They have a hold on things
  - Comes from
  - Ball and sweet
  - Pearl Mosque site
  - Encourage
  - Early nuclear agcy.
  - Jeanne d'Arc: Abbr.
  - Suppose
  - Group of office workers
  - Gentlemen
  - Literary lioness
  - Boutique
  - Cocoonado's quest
  - Vituperative one
  - Obsession
  - Large trunk
  - Support of a sort
  - It's full of letters
  - Young adults
  - Spoor sacs
  - Levitate
  - Took flight
  - Cloudy
  - Jazz form
  - "Where the Boys —"
  - Has an aversion
  - Spuds
  - DC personage
  - Town on the Thames
  - Auberjonois
  - Anagram for less
  - Pique
  - Distant Comb. form
  - Accumulated learning
  - Erms and Evian
  - Scenery chewer
  - Sixus

## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

YOUNG BUT NOT SO INNOCENT

North-South vulnerable. South deals.

**NORTH**  
♠ K 7 4  
♥ Q J 9 4  
♦ 9 3  
♣ 8 6 5 3

**WEST**  
♠ 10 8  
♥ A 10 7 6  
♦ J 8 4  
♣ K J 9 2

**EAST**  
♠ Q J  
♥ K 8 5 3 2  
♦ Q 6 5  
♣ Q 10 4

**SOUTH**  
♠ A 9 6 5 3 2  
♥ Void  
♦ A K 10 7 2  
♣ A 7

The bidding:  
South 1 ♠ Pass  
West 4 ♠ Pass  
North 2 ♠ Pass  
East 4 ♠ Pass

Opening lead: Four of ♣. Don't judge a book by its cover, or a bridge player by age or sex. A former U.S. internationalist learned that lesson the hard way on this deal from a pairs tournament.

South's jump to four hearts showed the values for a spade game with shortness in hearts. That killed North's heart right there, so he signed off in four spades. Note that a slam, which depends on even breaks in both pointed suits (spades and diamonds), would be a heavy odds-against proposition.

Declarer was an attractive young lady. Afraid from the bidding that a

club lead would help declarer, West tried a low diamond. Declarer captured East's queen with the ace and drew trumps in two rounds, ending in hand.

Had the game been rubber bridge, the hand would have held no interest. But at duplicate, overtricks were vital. When declarer now continued with a low diamond, West decided that his partner had to have the king. Since he wanted a club lead through declarer, West naively followed with the eight of diamonds. The roof fell in.

Dummy's nine of diamonds won the trick. Declarer came to hand with a heart ruff, cashed the king of diamonds for a club discard and, when the jack dropped, took two more club discards on winning diamonds. She then ruffed her club loser on the board for all the tricks and an outright top.

Note that declarer's play of low diamond could only have gained. Had West taken the jack of diamonds, declarer would still have been able to take three club pitches, and she would have ended with the same 12 tricks that were there for the taking from the outset.

## ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

FILE	OLGA	ARAR
ELAN	RAISE	ROSA
ALIT	ATLAS	CHIC
TAKE	CHANGE	NAY
STABLE	OPEN	
ERE	CARAVANS	
SNIDE	FACT	ANEW
MON	EARNEST	CIA
OLAF	VOID	AGENT
GATELEGS	API	
REAR	DUELIST	
IDA	SENIOR	DANCE
BONO	LETNO	TORE
JINCA	LATER	INON
SEER	RONIA	NEDS



"I know exactly what he wants for Christmas, but he'll get a tie and like it."

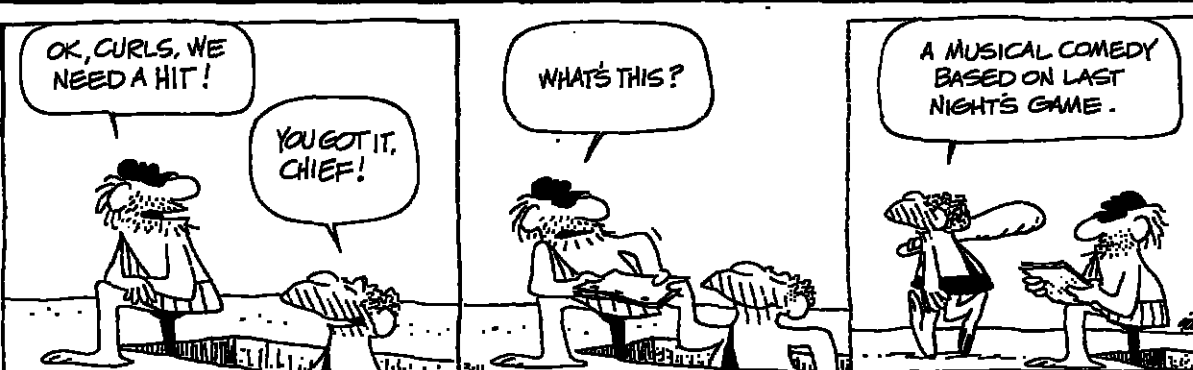
## THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



## B.C.

By Johnny Hart



## YOUR STARS



Aries (March 20 - April 18)



Cancer (June 21 - July 21)



Libra (Sept 22 - Oct. 22)



Capricorn Dec 22 - Jan 19

This is going to be an interesting day for you. But do not allow your mind to wander. A seemingly easy problem will not be as simple as it appears at first. Have more faith in yourself. Be consistent.

You will have to keep your wits very much about you. Above all you can must keep calm even in the face of provocation. Do all you can to avoid getting into an argument. Be polite.

Not everything will be to your liking but you will know how to put up with it. You should do your best not to allow your attention to be distracted. Avoid spending money on some unnecessary gadget. Your lucky numbers are 28 and 16. Be fair.

Everything will take just a little longer than you hoped it would. Others will not be as well disposed towards you as you would prefer. The Moon's less favorable influence will tend to make it harder for you to concentrate. Be moderate.



Taurus (April 19 - May 19)



Leo (July 22 - Aug 21)



Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov. 21)



Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb. 18)

The Moon's influence will make it easier for you to decide on what to do in the circumstances. You are liable to dwell too much on the past. You should try not to get things out of proportion. Be reliable.

This is an important day for you. If you take things as they come you will get less than your full deserts. Avoid wasting time on secondary matters. Be pertinent.

The Moon's more favourable influence will help you to put the time available to good use. A temptation to indulge in sweet things should be kept within limits. You should have a good laugh at yourself. Be generous.

You will not be as energetic as you would wish to be. You should do all you can to maintain harmony with those around you. There is nothing to stop you from holding your head high. Be tactful.



Gemini (May 20 - June 20)



Virgo (Aug 22 - Sept 21)



Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)



Pisces (Feb 19 - March 19)

You must beware of losing interest in something that cannot yet be abandoned. You will be able to increase your prestige. Make sure you take all factors fully into account. Be patient.

You will be able to make good progress with a project which means a lot to you. You should watch out for low quality. Show yourself to be a little more forthcoming and pliable. Be candid.

Not everything will be quite as you would like it to be, but you will know how to make the most of things. You will be able to find the solution to a problem that has been holding you up. You should try not to get things out of proportion. Be tolerant.

You will have to be on your guard against those who try to make things more difficult for you. You would do well not to place too much reliance on your intuitions. Avoid expecting gadgetry to take the place of intelligence. Be attentive.

## ANDY CAPP

By Smith



مكتبة



سکڑا منی لاہول

A mixed bag of characters coming your way

# Old familiar faces in a new get-up

By Firoze Rangoonwala

NEW bunch of characters will soon be presented on the Hindi screen. Some have been written and conceived in an unusual form, while others arouse curiosity with their get-up and the way they are portrayed by popular stars. Since the new films are quite realistic and rooted to the ground, the environment but others are meant as a feast of fantasy. And there are at least a few which are both realistic and fantastic.

Declared one of the best presented by veteran Dulal Sinha, with a new director Aziz Sejawal, is a heart-ruffing, action-packed "flavour of the earth" film for a dishevelled, slum area Purni basti which is almost a town.

There are various types of characters. With virtues and vices, with wealth or without wealth. There is a physically handicapped bootlegger (Om Puri), who as brought up a boy (Mithun).

Mithun who is called Raja in the Basti had a dream of getting an education. But this was shattered in childhood and he grew up instead to be a brewer and seller of illicit liquor.

His female counterpart is a petty shopkeeper (Madhuri), also a child of the slums. On the other side of the fence are the police and politicians, both good as well as bad.

The young man to match Raja is Suraj (Sunjay Dutt), whose mother (Raakhee) succeeds in making him a police officer, because his father (Dharmendra) was killed in the course of duty.

A female cop (Amrita) becomes Sunjay's assistant as well as girl friend. Among others, Jagdeep is a comic policeman, as per the usual screen fantasy. Avtar Gill is an M.L.A. who is hand in glove with the slum-lord Amrish Puri. Hangal appears as a school teacher, while Suresh Bhagwat, Dilip Tahil etc. play sundry interesting characters. There are rough and ready songs, like *Kal se phod doonga main sharab* sung in Mithun's own voice.

The idea for *Ilaka* was inspired by the highly popular TV serial *Nukkad* and is written by Javed Siddiqui who once did *Shatranj Ke Khiladi* for Satyajit Ray.

The film of course has to take the usual film route but inter-action between the two media is at least bringing some fresh aspects of TV to the big screen.

*Ilaka* could have done more than using just Avtar Gill and Suresh Bhagwat from *Nukkad*. It could have also done away with the formula sequences of childhood, parents' murder, revenge, two heroes turning from friends to enemies, the Ganapati celebration, Holikadevi, the destroying of the evil, again with explosives and so on.

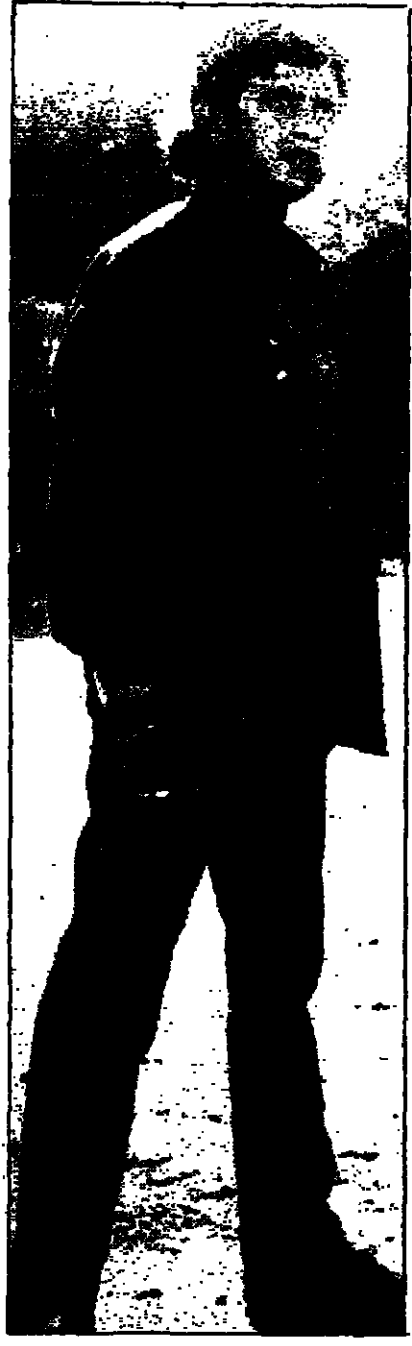
**Death**

The real life case of several deaths in Bombay's J.J. Hospital due to fake medicines has provided the starting point for another law versus lawlessness drama in *Gair Kanoni*. It is written and directed by Prayag Raj, and his old pal Shashi Kapoor plays an inspector who is bent on gathering proofs of malpractices at the J.J. Hospital owned by villain Ranjeet.

However, the main problem is the exchange of new-born kids. The villain Kadar Khan has taken away Shashi's son and substituted his own daughter in his place. He also arranges the murder of Ranjeet, who is holding some incriminating documents against him.

While Shashi's central character of the honest cop is fairly authentic, the others keep jumping between reality and film fantasy, with familiar scenes and crude gimmicks. The son grows up to be Govinda, who loves driving girls into marriage and pocket their dowry. The girl becomes Sri Devi, a petty thief, brought up by some lowly people.

Meanwhile, the murdered man's son, Ranjeet again in a double role, swears revenge. He is loved by villain Ranjeet's daughter Kimi. Needless to say that



A fresh crop of Indian films is ready for release with the usual fare of romance and violence. However, some familiar faces have donned unusual disguises or are playing characters different from the usual stereo-type roles, film goers are accustomed to seeing them in. Feroze Rangoonwala reports.

Mithun (left) and Sunjay Dutt play 'sons of the soil' in *Ilaka*.



Rekha as Madame X.

woman doing any dare-devil crime for wealth.

The hero adopts the tactics of having a second lady to outwit the first. It's an old idea taken also from Amitabh's *Don*. (Must Rekha do everything to follow in "his" footsteps?). So another image of the good heroine is created. She is trained and prepared to take the place of the original, so that the real gang of culprits behind her can be tracked down.

Anupam Kher, Avtar Gill, Shakti Kapoor and Raza Murad play the other roles in the film directed by Deepak Shivdasani.

Aakhri Gham may sound a strange title in a country that has crossed forty years of democracy and freedom. Yet, there are cases heard about bonded labourers still wasting their life in remote villages.

The film directed by Shibu Mitra is perhaps inspired by this reality to present Mithun as a slave-child, growing up under a heartless landlord, Anupam Kher. He has learnt implicit obedience from all the injustices and punishment and is surprisingly devoted to his master with heart and soul.

The Thakur's daughter Sonam loves Mithun. But she is sent off abroad to study. The hero kills his master's enemy and goes to jail for it. The landlord now shifts his wealth to the city and a mill. By nature, he begins to treat the workers also like slaves.

The union leader Raj Babbar opposes this and Anupam has to accept defeat. But when Mithun returns from jail, Anupam orders him to kill Babbar. Meanwhile, Mithun meets the foreign returned beloved Sonam again and now the slave decides to revolt against the false master.

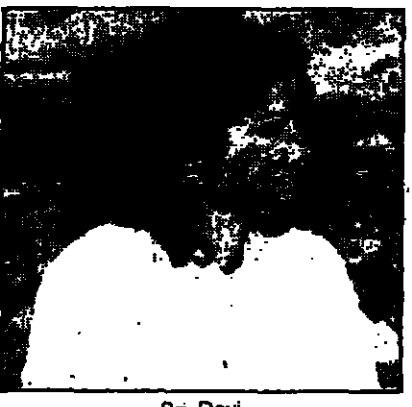
There comes a fantastic change in his appearance too. He becomes a sophisticated guy, with dark glasses, a beard



Govinda

and a dog on the leash. As a last resort, the dying landlord seeks his help, which he loyally gives.

And then there is Dada Kondke, the last word in rural, earthy characters, who are not only comic but also capable of fantastic deeds. In his forthcoming *Khol De Meri Zuban*, Dade plays a dumb man Lallu, who is very helpful to the villagers. The landlord's daughter always teases him. Her horoscope says that only her fourth husband will live. Two are already dead and the father cannot find the third. Meanwhile, Lallu gets his speech back and starts exposing the evil villagers. He also accepts the challenge of marrying the girl and yet does not die. The landlord and his men try their best to get rid of him. He makes a city businessman adopt the whole village. In the end, he is bit by a temple bell and returns to his dumb innocence.



Sri Devi

Govinda and Sri Devi love each other, but they are opposed by Kadar.

There is even an angle about a kidney transplant and the girl demanding a huge amount for it from Kadar. There is also a twist about the two heroes turning friends after being bitter foes.

**Fantasy**

A total plunge into fantasy will come with *Madam X* starring Rekha in a double role and Mohsin Khan getting his big chance. He is a policeman whose girlfriend is bumped off by Madam X. This is one side of Rekha, as some sort of a female Don, dressed up like a comic book character of some ancient queen and using ultra-modern gadgets like James Bond.

With some crazy head-gear, she really looks weird rather like a stunt queen from the old movies. It's unusual for her to play an anti-heroine role that of a

## Behind the screen

Fiery Farha

Artists are usually self-loving or self-destructing. But fiery Farha surpasses all by having strong suicidal tendencies and surviving. She is quite proud that she has attempted to slash her vital nerves at least 15 to 20 times. Her family has become accustomed to all the blood and panic. But nothing happens to her. So a bitchy actress suggested: "Why does she not try jumping from some big height?"

Too many airs?

Neeta Puri, the video star just becoming a movie star, is putting on too many airs and making too many demands about her costumes, make-up etc. Since producers don't fancy the skinny Westernised odd-ball actress, she may be losing some big films. And the video field is also closing on her, with her *alma mater* Hiba Films not keeping up its output. So "careful" should be the word. Or is it "immediate change of attitude"?

Prem in fashion

Prem seems to be coming in vogue in the midst of *Khoon*. Against the violent films, many love tales are also being made. Boney Kapoor is making *Prem* itself, to be followed by Prem Paigham, Prem Ratigya, Prem Diwani, Prem Sandesh, Prem Upkaar and more to come.

New song for Tezaab

The Tezaab people are adding a new song to the hit film. It has catchy words like *Sri Devi ko nachao to jaane*, *Amitabh ko bulao to nae*, *Dara Singh ko ladao to jaane* etc. It is being done after the film has run for 18 weeks. But their claim that this is the first time this has been done is false. Raj Kapoor did it years ago in "Barsaat." After the film ran several weeks he added *Main Zindagi mein har dam rota hi hua hoon*. And it ran even longer.

Family saga

The Sunny-Dimple attachment was out in the open when they did a musical together for N. Chandra's *Narsimha*. Till now they had been meeting secretly. But will they allow Sunny's brother Bobby and Dimple's daughter Twinkle to act in Ghai's new film? And in case both pairs decide on marriage, the relationships will be indeed difficult to sort out.

Landless financier

It is said that the financier of Zameen who was a land-owner has some landless due to the tricks of those making the film. What more do you want from a title to prove true?



Sunny (left) and Dimple: their relationship is now in the open



Farha: strong suicidal tendencies

## ARAB TIMES GRAND BINGO

COMPETITION NO. 69

PRIZES

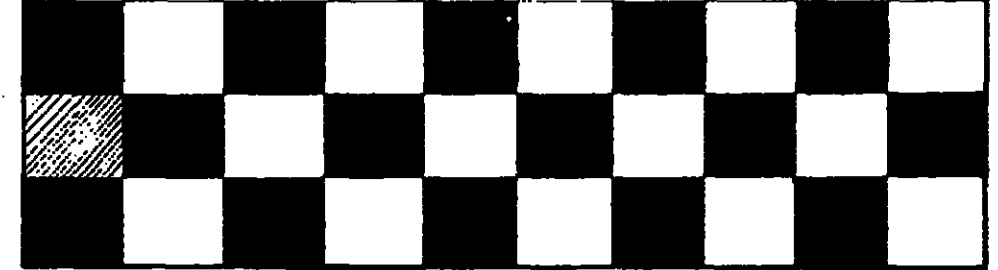
- First Full House: KD 100
- Second Full House: KD 60
- Third Full House: KD 40
- Top Line: KD 25
- Four Corners: KD 25

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- Solve the clue underneath the entry card (below) and enter the number that you think is the answer in the shaded square on the left-hand side of the card. This square must be completed.
- Now select a further 14 numbers between 1 and 90 inclusive and enter these in the remaining open squares. You should now have 15 DIFFERENT numbers on your card. Please write them clearly, in ballpoint or ink.
- Fill in your name and address in the appropriate lines on the form, in block letters.
- Make an exact copy of your 15 numbers on the copy card provided underneath, and keep it so that you can check off your numbers as they appear in the ARAB TIMES every day.
- Register your Free Bingo entry by sending it to the ARAB TIMES. Read details below carefully.
- Watch out for YOUR numbers each morning in the ARAB TIMES.

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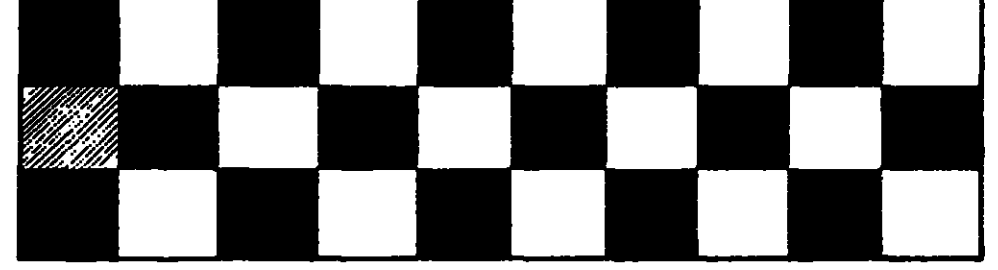
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EVERYDAY four numbers will appear on Page Two. A number may be repeated. If this happens, continue with the rest of the numbers. Check off on your copy card the number or numbers which coincide with your selected numbers. Do this every day.

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- All the claimants' entries will be opened at 1 pm on the day claims are made and depending upon the correct clue and all numbers checked being correct, the last number checked off by the claimant will be the criterion for awarding the prizes according to the priority of the number published on that day from left to right.
- If there is a tie, the winning name will be drawn from a hat.
- The decision of the judges is final and no correspondence can be entered into. Employees of the Arab Times and Al-Seyassah Organisation and their families are not eligible to enter.
- No responsibility can be accepted for delayed or missing entries, or altered or mutilated entries although the date franked on envelopes will be accepted so long as it is prior to the competition starting date. Envelopes without names, initials on the back, initials in front, and those received after the closing time detailed on this form will be disqualified.
- No numbers at any time will be told over the telephone.
- Claims must be on the same day's numbers. Claims with previous day's numbers will not be entertained.

Is the initial of your surname in the front of the envelope?

PLEASE PRINT YOUR NAME ON THE BACK OF THE ENVELOPE AND INITIAL OF YOUR SURNAME ON THE LEFT HAND TOP CORNER IN FRONT. This is essential for the speedy checking of claims. Entries received without names and initials as mentioned above will be disqualified. When you have completed your entry

card and copy card and filled in your name and address, send in your entries, by post, addressed to: BINGO, Arab Times, P.O. Box 2270, 13023 Safat Kuwait. A surer alternative is to deliver by hand to the Arab Times, Al-Seyassah Building, Airport Road, Shuwaikh.



## Dear Junior Readers,

Everyone knows that April the first is All Fools' Day - when people try to trick each other.

It has been suggested that the reason for this strange custom is that it was the day when Noah sent the dove from the Ark and it came back without being able to find land. So now the best April fool jokes are to do with "sending on a fool's errand."

Some people may think of rather nasty or cruel jokes to play on others. I advise all of you to avoid such fowl behaviour, as the beginning of a month should be celebrated with "light" and harmless jokes. Try not to hurt anyone's feelings.

After noon, the joke rebounds on the joker, and the intended victim can retort "April Fools' Day's past and gone, you're the fool and I'm none."

The song of the cuckoo is first heard in April, in many countries. And the month is sometimes referred to as The Cuckoo's Month.

There is an ancient saying that if a girl wants to know how many years it will be before she marries, she can count the answer in the number of cuckoo calls she hears. For boys the Cuckoo's call means that all the adventures of summer are beginning.

April is often accompanied with unpleasant weather, dust storms and humidity, so you may have to stay indoors quite a bit. If we are unfortunate to see such weather, pastime games will come in handy.

Manal

CHOCOLATE is the deep, dark brown, sinful stuff with which we pamper ourselves when we are a bit low, with which we treat ourselves when we've done well, on which we gorge ourselves on sight of a dire strait - and then feel the guilty pangs afterwards.

Chocolate is the vegetable we spend a lot of money on.

Chocolate and chocolate goodies are the only packaged food in which we invest the most hope and emotion (whoever heard of anyone turning to smoked salmon or fried eggs in the time of crises?). And despite all this frantic consumption and passion, it is the most maligned item in anyone's diet - obesity, depression, allergies, schizophrenia, spots, panic attacks, tooth decay, migraine, rashes and headaches - you name it, they can all be put down to, or blamed on, the delectable dark sugary stuff.

But, despite the health boom and all the repeated claims that chocolate does nothing but harm what with all the sugar and all the fat, we're still rushing in our droves to the tuck shop. What's more, we are collectively, eating more of the stuff than ever before. So we decided to take this sticky issue by the horns in a greedy attempt to find out just what chocolate is, why it has such a hold on us and how it actually affects us.

## What is chocolate?

A discovery of the Aztec Indians, chocolate was first taken to Europe by Christopher Columbus who presented cacao beans at the court of King Ferdinand of Spain in 1502. But it wasn't until the blood-thirsty conquistador, Cortes, returned from his sorties in the killing fields of the New World that it caught on commercially.

The Mexicans, who used to drink in many sacred ritual ceremonies, drank it in a bitter and highly spiced form to which the Spaniards added vanilla and sugar.

They kept the secret of this black magic drink for nearly a



century, but it finally spread to other European capitals. The first chocolate house in London was opened in Bishopsgate in 1657. It was frequented by the rich and fashionable elite and Samuel Pepys recorded the pleasures of imbibing "joclatie" in his much read diaries.

At this time the cacao bean was used whole, producing a very fatty drink with an unpleasant scum at the top. This all changed in 1824 when Van Heuten, a Dutchman, invented a system of rollers to press some of the fat out, leaving us with cocoa powder as we know (and love) it today.

This led the way for Joseph Fry of Bristol to invent his chocolate lozenge ("a pleasant and nutritious

substitute for food while travelling or when unusual fasting is caused by irregular period meal-times" as the snappy 19th century advertising slogan had it), the first eating chocolate.

Another red letter day for chocoholics came in 1824 when John Cadbury opened the doors of his Birmingham beverage shop. He originally intended to sell tea and coffee, but found chocolate overtaking in the popularity stakes and so soon opened a chocolate factory in nearby Bourneville.

Then, for the love of his boss' daughter, Daniel Peter of Switzerland invented milk chocolate (using Nestle condensed milk) in 1876. This led the market until Cad-

bury introduced their Dairy Milk bar in 1904. And the rest is history.

## Is chocolate bad for you?

Not altogether, no. The message from the nutritionists is, if you've got to eat sweets eat chocolate because it does contain some nutrients such as calcium, zinc and vitamin A. But it does have twice the fat of the greatest chips which doesn't exactly do you good.

## Can it give you spots?

The experts say there is no real evidence, but then sufferers need no proof. It is possible, if not likely, that the

amount of fat in chocolate contributes to your pimples, so it is well worth putting yourself on an exclusion diet for a few weeks to study the results.

## Can it give you headaches?

There is no real proof of this, but in a recent survey 74 per cent of migraine sufferers claimed that chocolate triggered off their attacks. Neither chocolate nor any other food can actually give you a migraine - you are born with a tendency to it - but in some people certain foods can provoke an attack and chocolate is 'a particular villain'. The reason for this is that the rich creamy and gorgeous stuff we all crave contains a chemical with a very long name (betaphenylamine) saying that with a mouthful of Mars bar! And that chemical is a vasoactive amine which means that it causes all your little blood vessels to expand, and that could account for the beastly throbbing quality of migraine headaches.

Your moods are controlled by chemicals in the brain and one of those chemicals, serotonin, appears in chocolate. So running to the Milky Bar may, in fact, be a sensible way of restoring your mood enhancing capability.

## Can you be allergic to it?

In a report, chocolate was in the top ten list of foods most commonly involved in allergies and "food intolerance." But again, there is no hard evidence and most doctors poo-poo the idea that food can be involved in your ailments. So if you feel that sweet stuff might be making you ill, try doing without it for at least three weeks and see how you are after.

## Can it rot your teeth?

Dental caries - medical speak for decaying teeth - is undoubtedly helped along by the munching of chocolate.

Decay is caused when the bacteria present in your mouth acts on the carbohydrates you're eating to produce acid, which then sticks on to your teeth and gives your dentist something to do. What this means, in fact, is that every time you resort to chocolate you are giving your teeth an acid bath.

## Can you really be addicted to chocolate?

Not in the clinical sense, but psychiatrists say that it can create a powerful craving. So although you may feel that you cannot get through the day without a fix of Kitkat, you wouldn't actually suffer from any physical symptoms if all the sweet dealers were closed for business. But you might not be so happy which is the main reason why so many have become dependent on chocolate - it soothes, comforts and makes you feel that everything is right with the world. There's no solid proof yet, but there could be a good reason for this.

Chocolate facts

● The word chocolate is thought to come from the Aztec word xocoatl (or chocoatl) which meant bitter water.

● It takes a whole year's crop from one tree on a cocoa plantation to make one pound of cocoa powder.

● Maltasers were first introduced in the 1930's as "Energy Balls" - wonder why the change in name?

● Forrest Mars, the American inventor of the Milky Way and Mars bar, told his son in 1932 "thus company isn't big enough for the both of us" and dispatched his son abroad. Mars junior settled in Slough, England and set up his own Mars company, now one of the big three.

## Ha! Ha!

What did the rock pool say to another rock pool?  
"Show us your mussels."

What is yellow, has twenty-two legs and goes crunch?  
A Chinese football team.

Who invented gunpowder?  
A lady who wanted guns to look pretty.

Who was the first underwater spy?  
James Bond.

What do you get when you eat foam?  
Soft in the head.

Did you hear the joke about the field of corn that was 100 feet high?  
You wouldn't like it - it's a very tall story.

In a fight between a hedgehog and a fox, who won?  
The hedgehog won on points.

What did the Daddy Hedgehog say to his son as he was about to spank him?  
"This is going to hurt me far more than it will you..."

What do you call an Eskimo's house which has no lavatory?  
An igloo.

What travels 100 miles per hour underground?  
A mole on a motor-bike.

How do you milk a mouse?  
You can't - the bucket won't fit under it.

What is the worst kind of weather for rats and mice?  
When it's raining cats and dogs.

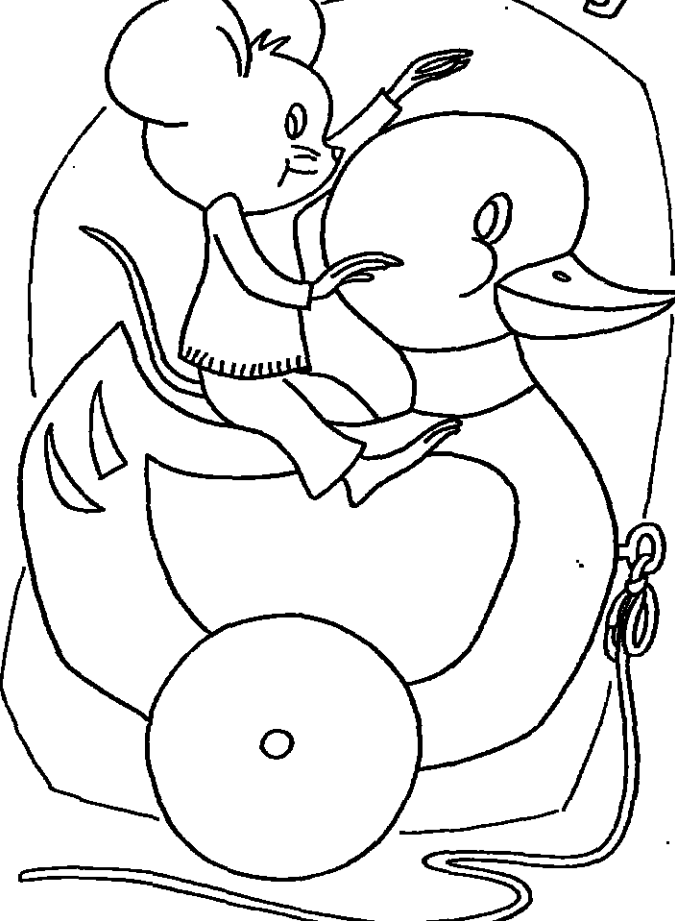
What's worse than raining cats and dogs?  
Hailing taxis.

What do you get when you jump in the Red Sea?  
Wet.

What do you call a cat who swallowed a duck?  
A duck-filled fatty puss.

## Colouring time

Nursery



Colouring Fun

## Join the dots

HOT ONE



## Word search

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S	A	V	I	N	G	R	O	Y	L
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Clue: Book of maps (5 letters)

'Egg-speriment' breaks the mold ...  
... but hopefully not the falling egg

By Michael Dabney

PHILADELPHIA, (UPI): I had not given much thought to the problem of constructing a device capable of keeping a raw egg from breaking when dropped from 10 to 12 feet into a pile of bricks but I accepted the challenge.

Philadelphia's Franklin Institute was holding its two week "egg-speriment" designed to teach children about simple physics and there I met Noah, an 11-year-old. I felt intimidated.

Noah Borun, a student at the Bala Cynwyd, Pa. Middle School, successfully accomplished the egg challenge - five times.

Noah and I, along with 22 other people, were about to try it again.

All the devices had to be made within 15 minutes with materials supplied by the museum.

As I gathered up shredded paper, sheets of paper, 3x5 cards, popsicle sticks, plastic straws, rubber bands, tape and scissors, I wished that, in four years of college, I had had the foresight to take a course in physics.

I took a peek at Noah. "I want to make sure that it does not hit too hard," Noah said.

I just wanted to keep from being embarrassed by an 11-year-old.

As I fought the clock, I was not thinking of the reasons for the museum's egg-speriment. I was fighting to keep from looking over at Noah, and copying him.

"It's an interesting

challenge. The kids learn about simple physics, gravity and impact," museum spokeswoman Luise Moskowitz said. "In a broad sense, they can also learn something about aviation."

The museum started its challenge with 2,000 eggs supplied by a local convenience store. Three times a day, and four times on weekends, the museum dropped the newly constructed egg-holding devices.

From 10 to 15 per cent of the contraptions worked and the eggs survived intact, Moskowitz said. The surviving eggs are given to Philadelphia for distribution to homeless shelters.

I started with two 3x5 cards taped together to form the bottom. Next I spaced four pieces of popsicle sticks on the bottom and taped them down. Between the sticks were plastic straws to cushion the fall.

Time elapsed - three minutes. Not to worry, there was still time.

Next came the walls. All I had were the cards, which were not co-operating, and the tape. After a false start, I taped the walls together. The basic structure was complete. It was not pretty but all it needed to be was functional.

Time elapsed - nine minutes.

I was beginning to get worried. Noah, who for the first time was being helped by his older brother Alex, 15, was putting the finishing touches on a padded box with a parachute.

I lined the bottom and

insides with paper. Next came shredded paper to cushion the egg.

Time elapsed - 12 minutes.

By then, I was really worried. Putting the egg inside would come last but I had not figured out how to keep the egg inside. And I wasn't sure the box itself would survive the fall.

I decided to cut a hole in the centre of the piece of paper and tape the paper across the top of the box. I also used rubber bands to hold it in place.

Time elapsed - 14 minutes. One minute left.

Finally, I put the egg inside the box, covered it with a little more shredded paper and taped a last 3x5 card over the hole.

Fifteen minutes. Time was up.

Most of the participants were children or adolescents, although there was one man who was about 50. Most of the contraptions were an odd assortment of paper, tape, string and rubber bands. Some were pretty, but most, like mine, were just odd looking.

The first device dropped was attractive but very fragile. The egg was tightly wrapped in paper and 3x5 cards and was connected to a paper parachute by a string. It dropped like a ton of bricks - only bricks don't go "splat" on impact.

Its maker, a little girl, briefly looked hurt, but recovered quickly when told she would still get a small gift for taking part.

One by one, the devices

were dropped. Most of the eggs broke. Noah's was not one of them. His padded box with two parachutes dropped quickly but landed on its bottom. Number six for Noah.

"I kept the egg up at the top and added the parachutes to make the fall slower," he said. "I had something to make it hit on the bottom, like the sticks, straws and paper."

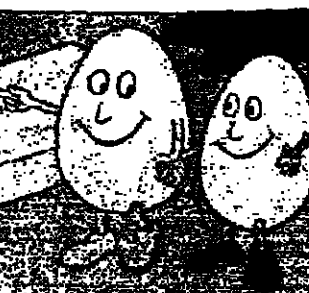
Then came my turn. Noah finally told me his secret. He said he always weighted down the bottom so the box would not flip over while falling. That was also partially the reason for the parachute. I had not thought about that. He wished me luck. I cursed under my breath.

The museum official lifted the box and, after a big, three-count send off, let go.

I wasn't going to look but it was over in the blink of an eye. The box hit the bricks and bounced onto its side. But I did not hear the all-too-familiar crunch of the egg breaking.

A museum official dug inside and withdrew my unblemished egg.

I jumped in joy. I had achieved success beyond my wildest dreams. I hadn't been beaten by Noah.



## Amazing facts

Herons have special combs on their toes for scratching off slime from fish. They also treat their feathers with powder produced by special feathers on the body.

Ice-hockey pucks shoot across the ice at nearly 112 mph.

The sacred ibis was believed by the ancient Egyptians to be the bird that hatched the 'world egg.'

In a planetarium in New York City there is a meteorite weighing over 34 tons.



## Happy birthday

Steven Joy celebrates his 3rd birthday on April 1. Best wishes from friends and relatives.



هكذا من اجل

# BUSINESS & FINANCE

## IMF to press Jordan to cut budget deficit

Rifa'i expects accord by early April

AMMAN, March 29, (Reuters): An IMF mission discussing Jordan's financial crisis will press the government to balance its budget within five years, a banking source said today.

"The IMF's main concern is the fiscal deficit. They want it reduced to two or three per cent, if not zero per cent, of the budget within four or five years," said the source, who is familiar with the fund's views on Jordan.

Jordan called in the International Monetary Fund, which began high-level talks in Amman yesterday, after a foreign exchange crisis forced it to halt some payments on its civil and military debt of over \$6 billion.

In the 1980s the kingdom has run budget, trade and balance of payments deficit covered mainly by Arab aid, domestic and foreign borrowing, and remittances from migrant workers.

Bahrain-based bankers said today they

expected Amman to seek rescheduling of its commercial debt after reaching an agreement with the IMF, but no formal request had been made.

They said Jordan was rolling over principal payments on two syndicated loans worth \$375 million and was technically in default. But banks were unlikely to press the matter because monthly interest payments were being met.

"Jordan is still seen as a reasonable risk," one said.

Western diplomats put Jordan's budget deficit at 253 million dinars (\$675 million at 1988 exchange rates) in 1988, against a forecast 68 million dinars (\$181 million).

This year the government has planned a deficit of 154 million dinars (\$285 million). It anticipates reaping 200 million dinars (\$370 million) in Arab grant aid, but Arab diplomats doubt this will materialise in full.

The banking source said the IMF team would discuss how Amman could cut its

deficit without hurting the economy.

"They will want to see plans for a wider tax base, improved tax collection and spending cuts. They will advise the government not to raise wages, hire more civil servants or transfer funds to state-owned enterprises," he said.

In 1988 the Central Bank loaned the treasury \$11 million dinars (\$833 million) in direct advances and purchases of treasury bills and government bonds, its figures show.

"If they keep on printing money to finance the deficit, the dinar will keep collapsing," the banking source said.

Conditions

Prime Minister Zeid Al Rifa'i has said Jordan will resist any IMF conditions because the kingdom has already launched needed reforms. He expects an IMF accord by early April.

Western diplomats and bankers believe it will take at least two months before the IMF agrees to begin disbursement of any

standby credit for Jordan.

They said an IMF seal of approval was needed if Jordan wished to approach the Paris Club of official creditors to reschedule its bilateral debt. Talks with the Paris Club could begin by the end of July at the earliest, they said.

One Western diplomat said he expected the IMF to advocate a realistic unified exchange rate for the dollar, currently fixed by the Central Bank at 540 fils to the dollar.

"They will also ask questions about food subsidies, which are now 10 per cent of current expenditure, as well as indirect subsidies on water and energy," he said.

"They will ask the government to lift its ban on luxury imports and replace it with higher customs duties," he said.

The government slapped a year-long ban on imports of luxury goods in November to save foreign exchange. It has also devalued the dinar, cut spending and frozen major development projects.



A share trader squeezed in a mob of fellowmen gasps during heavy trading at the Tokyo Stock Exchange near the end of a two-day buying spree on Wednesday, as shares shot up 430.92 points to close at a record 32,737.28 (Reuters wirephoto)

US leading economic index drops

## Strong dollar hits gold

LONDON, March 29, (Reuters): Gold fell \$5.50 an ounce today to close in London at \$382.25, pushed lower by a strong US currency which for the second straight day resisted central bank efforts to trim its recent rise.

Dealers who follow price charts said the metal, which dropped by just over \$6 on Tuesday, was now on course for \$378 and, if this level was broken, it could fall as low as \$365. Gold hit a 2-1/2 year low of \$377.90 in February.

Meanwhile, palladium, sister metal to platinum, hit 22-months highs on speculation that a claimed breakthrough in nuclear power generation could open a major new market for it.

Palladium, which is normally only thinly traded, defied the

trend in gold to reach \$155.50 an ounce, up \$10 from levels last week ahead of the long Easter holiday weekend.

Speculators bought the metal after a British and an American scientist announced last week they had sustained a nuclear fusion reaction at room temperature in an experiment involving a rod of palladium being dipped into heavy water.

If confirmed, the breakthrough could herald a new era of cheap nuclear energy. Until now nuclear fusion has only been achieved at temperatures close to those found in the sun in experiments using costly equipment.

Share prices closed at another record-high one the Tokyo Stock

Exchange today, while the US dollar continued to rise against the Japanese yen.

The 225-issue Nikkei stock average, which gained 793.96 points on Tuesday in its largest single-day rise this year, added another 430.92 points, or 1.3 per cent, finishing the day at 32,737.28.

"Japanese investors still expect the Nikkei to rise higher, which also boosted buying," the analyst said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

The US index of leading indicators, the government's main barometer of future economic trends, fell 0.3 per cent in February after a 0.7 per cent rise in January, the Commerce Department said today.

### Energy File

## Angola to open new areas for oil exploration

LUANDA, March 29, (Reuters): Angola is preparing to open up the remaining unexplored areas of its oil-rich seabed to foreign prospectors and developers, oil industry sources here said today.

The state-owned company Sonangol will shortly present geological and seismic data on five unallocated offshore blocks on the southern coast, the sources, who spoke on the condition that they were not identified, said.

Oil companies from all over the world would be invited to this technical presentation of the blocks numbered nine to 13 which would take place in London in either May or June.

"It's an attempt to attract interest to this southern zone," one of the sources said.

Angola is the second-biggest oil producer in sub-Saharan Africa after Nigeria and its unexplored offshore and onshore areas continue to attract wide international interest.

Exploration

The presentation would be the first before the unallocated blocks were offered for joint exploration and development by foreign companies in partnership with Sonangol (Société Nationale de Combustibles de Angola), the sources said.

Angola's oil production, currently concentrated in the northern offshore areas, is projected to reach 500,000 barrels per day by the end of 1990, oil industry officials say.

Of the country's 14 demarcated offshore blocks, which include the rich northern Cabinda area, three are currently in production (Cabinda and blocks two and three) and three are being explored (blocks one, four and five).

Drilling contract

NEW YORK, March 29, (OPECNA): The Parker Drilling Company of Oklahoma has been awarded a multi-well drilling contract by South Yemen.

The company said its subsidiary, the Parker Drilling Company of Kuwait, had been awarded a long-term contract with the Total-Aden exploration production company as part of Total's east Shawa drilling campaign.

The drilling sites are located in rugged, mountainous region of the country bordering Saudi Arabia.

BP to hike prices

VIENNA, March 29, (OPECNA): Mobil Austria has announced an increase of one to three cents a litre in petrol and diesel prices.

The hike has so far only taken effect in the two provinces of Carinthia and Styria.

Similar increases have already been announced by Esso across the entire country.

British Petroleum has said it would increase prices in the two western provinces of Tirol and Vorarlberg.

Oil imports

NEW DELHI, March 29, (OPECNA): India's crude oil imports reached 17.71 million tonnes, or worth \$1.70 billion, in 1988, Petroleum Minister Brahm Dutt told the Upper House of Parliament this week.

The imports were made mainly from the Soviet Union, Kuwait, Iraq and Saudi Arabia.

Under a recently-signed agreement, Kuwait will supply India with one million tonnes of crude oil every year.

The minister said India's domestic oil production was only 31.58 million tonnes a year, which he described as much less than the country's needs.

### Plan to help finance road project

## KD2m Kuwait Fund loan for Senegal

DAKAR, March 29, (KUNA): A loan agreement was signed today between the Republic of Senegal and the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development (KFAED), whereby the fund shall make a loan of KD2 million to help finance the Dialakoto-Kedougou road project, the Kuwaiti embassy said.

"The loan agreement was signed on behalf of the Republic of Senegal by HE Al Assane Ndiaye, minister of equipment, and on behalf of the fund by Abdulwahab Ahmed Al Bader, deputy director-general of KFAED.

The aim of the project is to contribute to the development of

the south-eastern area of Senegal, which is isolated at present, and to facilitate its connection with the capital and other parts of the country, and to participate in the completion of the Trans-West African Road network in addition to increasing the safety standard of the present road.

Project

The project consists of an asphalted road, 160 kilometres long, 6 metres wide, with 1.5 metres wide shoulders. The project includes civil engineering works in addition to consultancy services for supervision.

Total cost of the project is estimated at KD14.4 million, of

which 14 per cent shall be covered in full by the fund loan.

Execution of the project shall commence early in 1990, and is expected to be completed by the beginning of 1993.

The loan shall be for a period of 20 years including about 5 years grace period amortised in 30 semi-annual instalments, the first of which shall be due on April 1, 1994 and the last on Oct 1, 2008.

The loan bears interest at 2.5 per cent per annum, in addition to 0.5 per cent per annum to cover administrative and other expenses incurred in the implementation of the loan agreement.

## UK trade deficit widens

### Share prices drop

LONDON, March 29, (AP): Britain's merchandise trade deficit widened unexpectedly to £2.196 billion (\$3.73 billion) in February as exports fell faster than imports, the government said today.

Most economists had expected the deficit to narrow slightly. Share prices fell because of the news, which fuelled fears that interest rates would go higher.

The Financial Times-Stock Exchange 100-share index initially dropped nearly 14 points before recovering to a drop of 9 points, or 0.4 per cent, at 2,061.5.

The pound fell to \$1.6850 from

\$1.6895 shortly before the report was released.

The seasonally adjusted February shortfall compared with a deficit of £2.099 billion (\$3.57 billion) in January and a deficit of £1.507 billion (\$2.56 billion) in February 1988, the Department of Trade and Industry said.

Exports totalled £6.829 billion (\$11.61 billion) in February, down 7.4 per cent from £7.373 billion (\$12.53 billion) in January and up from £6.207 billion (\$10.55 billion) in February 1988.

Imports totalled £9.025 billion

(\$15.34 billion) in February, down 4.7 per cent from £9.471 billion (\$16.1 billion) in January and up from £7.714 billion (\$13.1 billion) in February 1988.

Consolidated Gold Fields stood 16p up at 1293. Analysts say Minorco's bid for Cons Gold, although currently restrained by a US civil court injunction limiting further purchases, could still succeed.

The analysts added, should a raising of the bid by Minorco stir sufficient acceptance of its offer, Cons Gold could be forced to withdraw the injunction and the bid could go ahead.

## TWA to buy up to 40 Airbus planes

NEW YORK, March 29, (Reuters): Trans World Airlines Inc. said yesterday it has ordered 20 aircraft from Airbus Industrie of Europe and taken options of an additional 20 in a deal valued at over \$3.6 billion.

Airbus will begin delivering the 300-seat A330-300 twin-engine widebody aircraft to TWA in late 1994 or early 1995, depending upon engine selection. TWA chairman Carl Icahn said in a prepared statement.

The order is a major victory for Airbus, which has faced difficulties in competing with the US aircraft manufacturers Boeing Co and McDonnell Douglas

Corp. due to the sharp decline in the dollar since 1985.

It is the third major purchase of Airbus planes by US airlines this year. Northwest Airlines said it would buy 10 A330s while Braniff Airways said it would spend \$3.5 billion to buy 50 Airbus A320s and take options on another 50.

But the European group has lost out in other big deals. American Airlines announced last month that it would spend up to \$7.2 billion for planes from McDonnell Douglas.

For TWA, the purchase represents a commitment to upgrade its fleet, which is currently

one of the oldest among the major airlines. The average age of its planes is over 14 years.

TWA's order is the largest ever for the A330, which is scheduled to enter service in September 1993. Airbus, a consortium made up of companies in Britain, France, West Germany and Spain, has been building a new assembly line for the craft in Toulouse, France.

Icahn said the planes would be used for major North American and trans-Atlantic routes.

So far Airbus has received 210 commitments for the A330 and A340 programme from 14 customers world-wide.

## GCC team meets Italian bank chief

ROME, March 29, (KUNA): Italian Central Bank Governor Carlo Izillo Champi conferred here today with a monetary delegation from the Gulf Cooperation Council on global economic matters, sources said.

The Gulf team consisting Governor of the Central Bank of Kuwait, Sheikh Salem Abdul Aziz Al Sabah, with Governor of Bahrain's Monetary Agency, Abdullah Seif and GCC Assistant Secretary for Economic Affairs Abdullah Al Owaisi, had visited Holland, West Germany, France and Britain last December.

During that European visit and in today's talks with the Italian Central Bank governor, the Gulf team underlined what the Gulf countries see as risks latent in classifying world countries in two groups, sources said.

The Kuwaiti Central Bank governor later expressed satisfaction over the talks, and said the Italian side had shown understanding of the GCC viewpoint on the issues.

## Symposium on car and road safety



Mr U.W. Danzer, the GM welcoming the guests.

A SYMPOSIUM on "Car and Road Safety" was opened on March 29th under the patronage of His Excellency Sheikh Salem Sabah Al Sabah, Minister of the Interior, who deputised Brigadier Fouad Mused Al Saleh, the Director-General of the Traffic Department, to attend on his behalf.

Professor Dr Dieter Diekmann, a world-renowned specialist from Germany invited by Albisher & Alkazemi, who organised the symposium on the occasion of their Four Dimensions of Safety Exhibition, gave a comprehensive lecture on "Car and Road Safety."

The symposium provided an excellent opportunity for leading experts on traffic management in Kuwait to share their views and experiences regarding road and vehicle safety and ways to improve awareness for safety among motorists.

A large number of representatives from the General Traffic Department and delegations from all GCC Traffic Departments, the Public Authority for Applied Education, Kuwait University, Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research and various officials concerned with safety attended the symposium.

Prof. Dr. Diekmann, addressing the gathering, provided a rare insight on the relationship between the human being, the vehicle and the road. He



Dr Nori Al-Khazimi and Mr Bisher Al-Bisher presenting the company's plaque to Brigadier Fouad Mused Al-Saleh.



discussed the subject in detail and said that "anybody driving along a road is under a certain tension."

Prof. Dr. Diekmann, who also gave a slide presentation, stressed that the motorist and vehicle and road triangles—a triangular closed loop system—must be as small as possible.

Summarising the numerous components for the development and improvement of automobile safety are Daimler-Benz, Prof. Dr. Diekmann said that "Active" and "Passive" safety systems were the most important.

He described Active Safety as "All those measures which serve to prevent the occurrence of an accident including easy handling, good cornering ability and good braking capacity."

He stressed: "The stress relieving safety covers favourable vibration characteristics of the vehicle, low noise levels, good air-conditioning and good visual and operational safety."

Prof. Dr. Diekmann explained Passive Safety measures and said such features (passive safety) minimise the results of accidents. He stressed that Passive Safety, better known as hidden safety features in cars, include safety belts, airbag protection to restrain the passenger during a crash deceleration and other features.

Discussing the concept of safety in Mercedes-Benz cars in detail, Prof. Dr. Diekmann emphasised that "Active and Passive Safety" must be regarded as an entity and are incorporated in the vehicle

design in a balanced manner.

He explained that three testing and procedural elements—design and calculation, laboratory measuring and testing and road trials—play a major role in the development of a vehicle.

Prof. Dr. Diekmann also explained the effect of noise, vibration and other factors on the passenger in the vehicle. He added that vision—seeing clearly—is the major prerequisite for driving and good vision, he said, increases safety.

An accident research film on Mercedes-Benz cars was also shown.

Prof. Dr. Diekmann said the seat-belt tensioner system, introduced by Mercedes-Benz, has increased the protective effect of the safety belt. He added that Daimler-Benz is the only car manufacturer to install front-seat belt tensioners as a standard feature since 1984.

Prof. Dr. Diekmann explained the benefits of the airbag protection system, installed in 400,000 Mercedes-Benz vehicles so far, through a film presentation.

Commenting on the general causes of accidents, Prof. Dr. Diekmann disclosed that technical defects were responsible for a small percentage of accidents while human error was responsible for 90 per cent of all crashes.

He added that the important criteria for traffic guidance systems include increased traffic safety, improved traffic flow, reduced noise level and air pollution and reduced energy consumption.

Lt. Col. Essa Abu Rahma, the head of the technical section at the General Traffic Department, also gave a speech outlining the problems of traffic management and road safety in Kuwait.



## WORLD STOCK MARKETS

LONDON  
(Alpha Stocks)

NAME	LAST
ABBEY LFE	320.00
ADT LTD	152.00
ALD LYONS	443.00
AMSTRAD	143.00
ARGYLE GP	176.50
ASDA GP	145.00
BAA	336.00
BTR	375.00
BAT INDS	562.00
BARCLAYS	435.00
BASS	920.00
BEAZER	215.00
BEECHAMS	589.00
BERISFORD	148.00
BICC PLC	198.00
BLUE ARROW	90.00
BLUE CIRC	533.00
BOC GP	506.00
BOOTS CO	269.00
BPB INDS	255.00
BR COMM	200.00
BR AIRWAY	195.00
BR AEROSP	574.00
BR GAS RG	181.00
BR LAND	367.00
B.P.	288.00
B.P.PP	184.00
BR STEEL	83.00
BURMAN OL	564.00
BURTON	212.00
CABLEWIR	460.00
CADBURYS	344.00
CALOR GRP	385.00
CLRTN CO	897.50
CLRTN R T	890.00
COOKSONS	316.00
COURTAULD	295.00
DALGETY	355.00
DIXONS	163.00
ENG CHINA	525.00
ENTER OIL	533.00
FKT BABCO	167.00
FERRANTI	108.00
FISONS	284.00
GATEWAY	163.00
GEN ACCID	972.00
GEN ELEC	233.00
GLAXO	294.00
GRANDAD	388.00
GLOBE	145.00
GUINNESS RYL	214.00
GUINNESS	370.00
GUINNESS A	443.00
HANSON	783.00
HARRISON C	185.00
HARRIS CH	727.00
HAKER SID	658.00
HILLSDOWN	276.00

LONDON  
(Beta Stocks)

NAME	CLOSE	OPEN
2ND ALLCE	854.00	854.00
600 GROUP	127.00	127.00
A. AMER	420.00	420.00
A.B. ELECT	442.00	440.00
A.S.W.HLD	256.00	256.00
AAB KENT	102.00	102.00
AAH HLD	382.00	382.00
AARONSON	119.00	119.00
ADDISON	37.50	38.00
ADVEST	176.00	175.00
ALEXON	389.00	388.00
ALDO COLL	133.00	133.00
ALD IR B	293.00	294.00
ALD LBN	148.00	148.00
ALD LPT	75.00	76.00
ALLIANCE	966.00	967.00
AMBER DAY	53.00	53.00
AMEC	425.00	425.00
AMER TST	133.00	133.00
AMERSHAM	499.00	497.00
AM HLTCH	375.00	374.00
ANGLIA TV	275.00	276.00
ANSBACHER	76.00	76.00
APPLY PLC	153.00	153.00
ASHELY LA	110.00	110.00
AUS REE A	253.00	254.00
AUST REED	390.00	393.00
AUTO SEC	287.00	287.00
AVDEL PLC	99.00	99.00
AVESCO	139.00	140.00
AVIS EUR	376.00	376.00
AVON RUBB	630.00	630.00
B. WEMILL	245.00	245.00
BAILL JAP	527.00	530.00
BAILL SHI	91.00	92.00
BAIRD (W)	242.00	243.00
BANK TRE	290.00	290.00
BANKER IT	87.00	87.00
BARDON GP	166.00	166.00
BART DEV	202.00	200.00
BAYNES C	30.00	31.00
BBA GROUP	187.00	187.00
BEAR BRND	10.00	10.00
BEATTIE J	48.00	48.00
BELLWAY	24.00	24.00
BENROSE	247.00	248.00
BENLON H	62.00	63.00
BERKELEY	253.00	252.00
BH GROUP	124.00	126.00
BK OF SCO	101.00	100.00
BLK L 2	14.00	14.00
BM GROUP	451.00	453.00
BNETT + F	109.00	109.00
BOASE MAS	304.00	305.00
BOODINGTON	177.00	177.00
BOOY SHD	524.00	523.00
BOOT HENR	460.00	463.00
BORTHWICK	40.00	41.00
BR ARROW	122.00	123.00

## World Indices

INDEX	LATEST	1/PREV-DAYS/2	PREV-OR	PREV-YR
FT 30 IND	1705.5	1708.0	1698.4	1655.3
FT 100 SHR	1180.4	1180.4	1167.5	1008.8
FT ALL SHR	1075.01	75.01	1068.68	926.59
FT GOV SEC	87.78	87.98	88.10	87.03
FT GOV HN	191.5	196.1	193.8	161.9
FT MINES F	643.78	643.78	636.16	565.31
FT OIL	1998.9	1998.9	1987.0	1725.4
FT MLD DLR	138.83	138.83	139.72	139.21
FT MLD STG	123.18	120.44	120.26	115.30
FT MLD LOC	129.06	127.30	127.29	123.40

## London Stock Market Report

U.K. STOCKS MIXED IN LATE TRADING AFTER DATA

LONDON, MARCH 29, REUTER - SHARE PRICES WERE MIXED.

EARLIER, THE LONDON MARKET SUFFERED MARK-DOWNS IN RESPONSE TO NEWS OF BRITAIN'S 1.7 BILLION STG CURRENT ACCOUNT DEFICIT IN FEBRUARY. A 1.4 BILLION SHORTFALL WAS FORECAST. DEALERS SAID THAT BARGAIN HUNTING LIMITED LOSSES AFTER THE FIGURE.

DEALERS FELT THE SHORTFALL WAS NOT SUFFICIENT TO PUSH DOMESTIC INTEREST RATES HIGHER. STERLING'S PERFORMANCE, COMBINED WITH STEADY BRITISH MONEY RATES, SUPPORTED SENTIMENT.

AT 1510 GMT THE FTSE INDEX WAS 1.7 UP AT 2,072.2.

CONSOLIDATED GOLD FIELDS STOOD 16P UP AT 1295. ANALYSTS SAY MINORCO'S BID FOR CONGOLD, ALTHOUGH CURRENTLY RESTRAINED BY A U.S. CIVIL COURT INJUNCTION LIMITING FURTHER PURCHASES, COULD STILL SUCCEED.

THE ANALYSTS ADDED, SHOULD A RAISING OF THE BID BY MINORCO STR STR SUFFICIENT ACCEPTANCES OF ITS OFFER, CONGOLD COULD BE FORCED TO WITHDRAW THE INJUNCTION AND THE BID COULD GO AHEAD.

BUILDING PRODUCTS TO FITTED KITCHENS GROUP, MAGNET, TOPPED THE ACTIVES LIST AFTER NEWS ITS DIRECTORS SAID THEIR NEWLY FORMED COMPANY, DMSL PLC, IS MAKING A RECOMMENDED OFFER FOR MAGNET VALUING IT AT 552.6 MLN STG. MAGNET ROSE 20P TO 30P.

## London Gold

LONDON, MARCH 29, REUTER - GOLD BULLION REMAINED QUIET DURING LATE TRADING, WITH PRICES NEAR EARLIER FOUR WEEK LOWS, DEPRESSED BY FUNDAMENTAL AND TECHNICAL FACTORS, DEALERS SAID.

GOLD CLOSED AT 382.00/382.50 DLRs AN OUNCE, DOWN SLIGHTLY FROM THE OPENING 382.50/383.00 DLRs, BUT WELL BELOW LAST NIGHT'S CLOSE OF 387.50/388.00 DLRs.

THE DOLLAR'S RECENT OVERALL FIRMNESS AND LACK OF FRESH BUYING INTEREST SAW GOLD DRIFT SLIGHTLY TODAY. TECHNICALLY, GOLD IS ON COURSE TO TEST CHART SUPPORT LEVELS AROUND 378 DLRs, WITH 365 DLRs SEEN AS THE MAJOR DOWNSIDE POINT, THEY SAID.

## London Money Market

LONDON, MARCH 29, REUTER - BRITISH MONEY RATES ENDED A QUIET SESSION AROUND 1/16 POINT FIRMER AGAIN TUESDAY'S CLOSING AFTER A WIDER THAN FORECAST U.K. CURRENT ACCOUNT DEFICIT FOR FEBRUARY.

ALTHOUGH THE 1.7 BILLION STG CURRENT ACCOUNT SHORTFALL AND THE 2.2 BILLION STG VISIBLE TRADE GAP WERE AT THE HIGH END OF ANALYSTS EXPECTATIONS, THEY WERE NOT THOUGHT DAMAGING ENOUGH TO SPARK A RISE IN U.K. BASE RATES.

TRADERS FELT THE FIGURES MERELY SHOWED THAT THE CURRENT 13 PCT BASE RATE LEVEL IS HERE TO STAY UNTIL THE BRITISH ECONOMY SHOWS SIGNIFICANT SIGNS OF IMPROVEMENT.

## Foreign Exchange

DLR	STG	DMK	FFR	OPG
DLR	1.6855/60	1.8920/30	6.3880/10	NOON
STG	1.6850/60	3.1890/925	10.7620/755	NOON
DMK	1.8890/870	3.183/197	29.55/71	FIX
FFR	6.386/396	10.7585/7765	337.210/850	FIX
SFR	1.6515/6523	2.7824/7858	87.21/31	NOON
NFL	2.1360	3.5990	112.775	CLSE
ECU	1.09946	0.652606	7.02781	CLSE
SDR	1.29496	.761517	2.43996	CLSE
YEN	132.95/33.05	223.85/224.16	8.25666	NOON
SDR RATE	28/03/1989	OTHERS	29/03/1989	

## NEW YORK

NAME	OPEN	MID-DAY
A BSCH CO	35.00	35.00
ATLANTIC R	90.00	90.00
ABBOTT LAB	53.00	53.00
ACME CLVD	10.00	10.00
ADV MICRO	8.00	8.00
AEROF LAB	5.00	5.00
AETNA LIFE	50.00	50.00
ARMANSON	16.00	16.00
AIR PR-CHM	42.00	42.00
ALASKA AIR	25.00	25.00
ALBERTSONS	40.00	40.00
ALBMA 8-16	0.00	0.00
ALCAN ALUM	30.00	30.00
ALCO STAND	26.00	26.00
AN CAP SEC	0.00	0.00
AN CYANID	50.00	50.00
AN FAMILY	16.00	16.00
AN HON PRO	85.00	85.00
AN STANDA	10.00	10.00
AN STORES	55.00	55.00
AN TEL-TEL	31.00	31.00
AMOCO CORP	40.00	40.00
AMP INC	41.00	41.00
AMP PITT	15.00	15.00
AMR CORP	59.00	59.00
AMR GEN CO	33.00	33.00
AMERADA	36.00	36.00
ANTHEM ELE	9.00	9.00
APACHE CO	9.00	9.00
APPL 8-12	0.00	0.00
ARMSTRONG	34.00	34.00
ASHLAND OIL	40.00	40.00
ASIA PACIF	8.00	8.00
ATLS CORP	26.00	26.00
AVERT INC	23.00	23.00
AVNET INC	22.00	22.00
AVON PRODS	21.00	21.00
BCE INC	31.00	31.00
BELLSOUTH	42.00	42.00
BELCO PA	25.00	25.00
BETH STEEL	23.00	23.00
BEVERLY	9.00	9.00
BK BOSTON	25.00	25.00
BK BSN-A	0.00	0.00
BK N-YORK	43.00	43.00
BANKAMERICA	23.00	23.00
BANKAM SPEC	6.00	6.00
BOEING CO	67.00	67.00
BOISE CASC	42.00	42.00
BOISE IN GLD	8.00	8.00
BORDEN	57.00	57.00
BOWATER	29.00	29.00
BR TELECOM	47.00	47.00
BRIGGS-STR	27.00	27.00
BRIST-MYER	46.00	46.00
BRUNSWICK	18.00	18.00
C 3 INC	10.00	10.00
C HLD G-EL	21.00	21.00
CAESAR CORP	42.00	42.00
CANADIAN	30.00	30.00
CAS FREIGHT	0.00	0.00
CAS NAT GS	14.00	14.00
CATERPILLAR	26.00	26.00
CBI IND	26.00	26.00
CBS	173.00	173.00
CENTEL CP	65.00	65.00
CHAMP INTL	29.00	29.00
CHAMP SPA	20.00	20.00
CHARTER CO	5.00	5.00
CHASE MAN	0.00	0.00
CHENED CP	33.00	33.00
CHEVRON	51.00	51.00
CHRYSLER	24.00	24.00
CHUBB CORP	67.00	67.00
CHUR FR CH	7.00	7.00
CIGNA CORP	53.00	53.00
CIN HILLAC	22.00	22.00
CIR CIT ST	43.00	43.00
CITICORP	27.00	27.00
CLARK EQUI	31.00	31.00
CLOROX	31.00	31.00
COMBIL RES	0.00	0.00
COMBIL SP	32.00	32.00
COM PACIFIC	19.00	19.00
COACHMAN	9.00	9.00
COASTAL	34.00	34.00
COCA-COLA	50.00	50.00
COLECO	1.00	1.00
COLEMAN CO	73.00	73.00
COLE-PALM	46.00	46.00
COLLINS	34.00	34.00
COLUMBUS-C	0.00	0.00
COM EDISON	32.00	32.00
CONAGRA	31.00	31.00
CON EDISON	45.00	45.00
CONTINENTAL	32.00	32.00
CONTL ILLN	40.00	40.00
CONTEL CP	20.00	20.00
CONTR DATA	24.00	24.00
COOPER T-R	24.00	24.00
COOPER CORP	30.00	30.00
CORNING GL	33.00	33.00
CRAY RES	54.00	54.00
CULLINET	5.00	5.00
DANA CORP	37.00	37.00
DANIEL IND	13.00	13.00
DATA GEN	15.00	15.00
DAYTON HLD	44.00	44.00
DEC	98.00	98.00
DEERE-CO	50.00	50.00
DELTA AIR	59.00	59.00
DIAMOND SH	19.00	19.00
DIEBOLD	43.00	43.00
DISNEY W	76.00	76.00
DOVER CORP	27.00	27.00
DOW CHEMCO	90.00	90.00
DOW JONES	30.00	30.00
DRESSER IN	37.00	37.00
DUKE POWER	28.00	28.00
DUN BRAD	43.00	43.00
DUPONT	102.00	102.00
DUNESIDE	17.00	17.00
DYNAMICS	0.00	0.00
E SYSTEMS	28.00	28.00
EAGLE PICH	13.00	13.00
EASTERN G	24.00	24.00
EMERSON EL	30.00	30.00
EMERSON RA	4.00	4.00
ETHEL CP	23.00	23.00
EXON	44.00	44.00
FAN DOL ST	11.00	11.00
FED NAT NO	63.00	63.00
FIELDCREST	25.00	25.00
FLEETWOOD	28.00	28.00
FLENCING CO	32.00	32.00
FCI CORP	34.00	34.00
FORD MOTOR	48.00	48.00
FOSTER WIL	17.00	17.00
FRCHLD IND	14.00	14.00
FREE MC OG	4.00	4.00
FST BANK	20.00	20.00
FST CHICS	37.00	37.00
FST INTERS	47.00	47.00
FST MISSIP	18.00	18.00
GAF CORP	51.00	51.00
GANNETT CO	37.00	37.00
GALVESTON	3.00	3.00
GATX CORP	55.00	55.00
GCA CP	0.00	0.00
GEN DATA	5.00	5.00
GEN DYNCS	53.00	53.00
GEN ELECT	44.00	44.00

## NEW YORK

NAME	OPEN	MID-DAY
A BSCH CO	35.00	35.00
ATLANTIC R	90.00	90.00
ABBOTT LAB	53.00	53.00
ACME CLVD	10.00	10.00
ADV MICRO	8.00	8.00
AEROF LAB	5.00	5.00
AETNA LIFE	50.00	50.00
ARMANSON	16.00	16.00
AIR PR-CHM	42.00	42.00
ALASKA AIR	25.00	25.0



## International Bond Highlights

## BOMBAY

**1950**

## Tokyo Stock Market Report

## Hong Kong Market Report

# AMERICAN

## PHILIPPINES MAKATI

## Makati Stock Market Report

## PHILIPPINES MANTLA

## India Stock Market Report

## SINGAPORE

## Singapore Stock Market Report

## KUWAIT

## FÄHRIGE

## Interbank Rates

## KD deposit rates ease

**Offered**

The latest T-bills were the first new offering since Kuwait raised its debt ceiling earlier this month.

Tomorrow-next was offered at three after quotes of 9-1/2 8-1/2 on Tuesday. Spot-next fell to five four and one-week to 7-1/2 6-1/2 from a uniform nine eight.

Government payments seen in the kingdom on Monday and Tuesday also helped put downward pressure on short-term rates.

### Interest Rates

## Co-operation vital

## Reforms depend on economy, says Urban

The Polish spokesman, who plans to travel to Washington and meet with officials of President George Bush's administration, said he was not making a specific appeal for US economic aid. But he emphasised the need for business co-operation, joint ventures, Western technology, debt rescheduling, lowering of customs barriers and speeded-up talks with the International Monetary Fund.

### Support

This is Urban's first official visit to the United States. He is scheduled to meet UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar this week, travel to Washington on Friday and address the National Press Club there next Monday.

Urban, speaking through a translator, said he came to the United States seeking support for Poland's political and economic changes. He said those include competitive elections to the national legislature, development in the private sector of the economy, closing inefficient subsidised plants and respecting market forces.

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**Japanese labour setting sights high in wage talks**

**Workers are not paid enough to match economic growth**

TOKYO, March 29, (AP): As they approach annual wage negotiations, Japanese workers are not impressed by arguments they already are the world's highest paid.

The country's biggest labour organisation is demanding average raises of seven per cent, saying Japan's high prices leave workers behind in real purchasing power. "Japanese workers are not paid enough to match the country's economic growth," Kajiyama Toshimichi, chairman of the 5.6-million-member Trade Union Confederation, recently told reporters.

Employers counter that higher wages would hurt Japan's ability to compete overseas. They say the answer is for the country to find a way to reduce prices.

Japanese companies and their unions do their bargaining each April in what is known as the "spring labour offensive." This year's began with a rally by about 10,000 workers last Saturday (March 25)

in a Tokyo park.

Strikes tend to be short, intended mainly as demonstrations. The Labour Ministry said that of 1,347 strikes last year, involving 430,000 workers, only 496, with 75,000 workers, lasted more than a half-day.

The forthcoming negotiations follow a year in which consumer prices rose 0.7 per cent, compared with 0.1 per cent in 1987, and unemployment, at 2.5 per cent, was the lowest since 1983. Although Japan counts some people as employed who would not be counted in other nations, some industries have reported labour shortages.

The Bank of Japan says the average profits of 648 major Japanese enterprises rose by 23 per cent last year.

Kajiyama claims that good raises actually will help businesses.

"A higher scale of wages will help expand Japan's domestic demand and improve the standard and quality of life in Japan in keeping with its new economic

status as the country with the highest (per capita) income," Kajiyama recently told reporters.

He added, however, that the Japanese workers' real purchasing power is only 60 per cent of the average American's or 70 per cent of the average West German's.

An international study released last October listed average Japanese income in 1987 at \$23,022, followed by \$21,022 in West Germany, \$18,163 in the United States and \$17,657 in France.

**Power**

But the study listed real purchasing power at \$9,009 in the United States, \$7,783 in West Germany and \$7,302 in Japan, where high food and housing costs offset high wages.

Raises hit a 22-year low of 3.6 per cent in 1987 as Japanese companies battled the effects of the higher yen, which made their products more expensive and less competitive overseas. The high-yen problem since has been overcome, in some cases by

streamlining of basic industries.

Last April, Japanese companies granted an average 4.4 per cent raise, bringing the average wage to about 249,000 yen (\$1,915) a month, excluding overtime and bonuses. Many economists expect increases of about five per cent this time.

But the Japan Federation of Employers' Association argues for holding down raises to keep Japanese business competitive.

Instead, it "suggests that high domestic prices should be reduced to help the people improve the condition of their daily life," said the federation's spokesman Yasuyuki Hirai.

He said the federation would like to see methods found to simplify the costly system of middlemen that goods pass through en route to consumers, pass on to consumers the benefits of the yen's rise, which lowers the cost of foreign products, fuel and raw materials; and curb sharp recent rises in land and housing costs.



A masked demonstrator takes aim with a slingshot during a confrontation with police who used tear gas to disperse protesting Corsicans on the French island of Corsica. Corsican trade unions demanding better pay, enter their sixth week of strikes as talks with the government broke down this weekend. (Reuter wirephoto)

**Strike for better pay**

**France moves to dampen violence**

AJACCIO, Corsica, March 29, (Reuter): Police fired tear gas to disperse protesting Corsicans on this French island yesterday as a strike for better pay entered its sixth week with no sign of a settlement.

At least 12 police and several strikers suffered minor injuries in the northern town of Bastia when police fired tear gas to disperse protesting workers, government and hospital officials said.

They said rifle fire was heard from the direction of the protesters. A number of cars were damaged and sporadic clashes between police and strikers continued in back streets.

Police said they used tear gas when some 300 demonstrators tried to break down metal railings around the prefecture, where Paris' centrally-appointed administrator is based.

With the threat of violence increasing, Prime Minister Michel Rocard called for fresh talks to end the dispute over the high cost of living on the Mediterranean island.

Corsica was virtually cut off

from the rest of the world last week when a union blockade of seaports and airports led to shortages of food and medicines.

Union leaders representing more than 20,000 striking civil servants and private sector workers walked out a first round of negotiations with a government-appointed mediator in Paris on Sunday, dismissing the state's offer to offset the cost of transport as an insult.

Rocard yesterday held crisis talks with Interior Minister Pierre Joxe and Budget Minister Michel Charasse and issued an appeal to the unionists to return to the conference table.

The government has been resisting workers' demands for a pay increase, saying taxes had already been abolished on such items as cigarettes and alcohol while other goods were subsidised.

"No one will go to Paris without the government first making us a concrete offer," a spokesman for one of the unions said in the capital Ajaccio.

**New Zealand committed to slash \$8.6b debt**

WELLINGTON, New Zealand, March 29, (AP): Finance Minister David Caygill today said the government is committed to slashing New Zealand's debt by 14 billion dollars (\$8.6 billion) by 1992 through a programme of privatisation.

Latest statistics show the public debt stands at about 39 billion dollars (\$24 billion). Caygill said debt payments are about 12 million dollars (\$7.4 million) a day and represents the single biggest constraint on efforts to improve the country's welfare.

In this fiscal year, ending June 30, the government has sold the Development Finance Corporation Ltd, which provided loans to new industries and small businesses; the health computing service, which held computer records and other health; synfuels and Maui Gas Contracts; Postbank NZ; Air New Zealand and the Shipping Corporation. Those sales produced a total of 1.83 billion New Zealand dollars (\$1.12 billion).

**Bid**  
The Labour government of Prime Minister David Lange on March 7, rejected a bid from the National Australia Bank for the Bank of New Zealand. The bid was believed to have been about one billion dollars (\$615 million).

The only other asset sales since the government decided in December 1987 to embark on the major privatisation programme have been the oil exploration company Petrocorp and New Zealand Steel, which jointly returned 1.1 billion dollars (\$676 million).

Other assets listed as sale prospects in the July 1988 budget were the state's forestry assets, government property services, the Tourist Hotel Corp., the financial assets of the Land Corp. and the business assets of the Tourist and Publicity Department.

**Iraq to get \$50 million credit from Pakistan**

BAGHDAD, Iraq, March 29, (AP): Pakistan will extend a \$50-million export credit to Iraq for purchases of Pakistani goods, the government-run Alif Baa weekly magazine reported today.

The magazine quoted Pakistan's Commerce Minister Faisal Saleh Hayat as saying the credit will cover a wide variety of products including fishing vessels and other merchant ships.

Alif Baa also quoted the Pakistan official as saying his country is keen to participate in Iraq's reconstruction efforts, following the United Nations-sponsored ceasefire last Aug 20 that halted the 8-year Iran-Iraq war.

Hayat signed a bilateral economic and trade accord in Baghdad earlier this month which he said "paved the way for further co-operation" between Iraq and Pakistan.

Officials in Baghdad told the Associated Press that a delegation of Iraqi businessmen will soon visit Islamabad, the Pakistani capital, to select goods covered by the new credit.

Iraq already has a foreign debt burden estimated at more than \$60 billion. It post-war efforts to attract private investment to help rebuild the economy so far have had little success.

**Saudis to finance food purchases for Egypt**

NICOSIA, March 29, (Reuter): Saudi Arabia is to pay for \$2 billion worth of food for Egypt, bankers in the kingdom said today.

Bankers and diplomats said some state-owned banks had received instructions from Riyadh to start arrangements to finance the purchase of foodstuffs for Egypt.

Arab aid to Cairo, burdened by a \$43-billion foreign debt, was cut when it signed a peace treaty with Israel 10 years ago.

**Big oil firms in UK face fresh criticism**

**Petrol price likely to rise**

LONDON, March 29, (Reuter): Big oil companies face fresh criticism of their price tactics amid signs they plan a new round of petrol price rises in Britain.

British newspapers said today the state monopolies watchdog body was ready to probe expected price rises by multinational oil companies citing poor profits and soaring crude prices.

The Monopolies and Mergers Commission is already investigating alleged moves by major oil companies to fix petrol prices, which have gone up 12 pence (20 cents) so far this year to an average £1.86 (\$3.14) a gallon.

Shell said yesterday a 10-pence (17 cent) a gallon rise was necessary and industry speculation was rife that other major oil companies would impose a five pence (eight cent) hike within days.

Leading oil companies complain of poor returns on petrol retailing and analysts say price rises are especially likely with

high crude-oil prices boosted by strong demand and supplies curtailed by oil installation accidents.

West Texas Intermediate, the benchmark US crude, has risen to \$20 a barrel from \$12 last autumn — and some industry sources expect crude prices to firm further after this week's meeting of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries in Vienna.

Britain's Automobile Association described the prospect of further petrol pump price rises as "shocking bad timing" — a view shared by opposition political parties.

**Rise**  
"Motorists will need some convincing that a further rise in the price of petrol is justified," said the Labour Party's trade spokesman Bryan Gould.

High petrol prices will hinder the Conservative government's fight against inflation — its

declared number one economic enemy. A six pence (10 cent) a gallon rise would add 0.12 per cent to the annual inflation rate, analysts say.

Meanwhile, the Shell Oil Company, which recently made the first oil find in a Norwegian area of the strategic Barents Sea, said today that production tests had proved the find was not commercial.

The tests have given us very valuable (geological) information, but the find turned out to be non-commercial," Shell spokesman Terje Jonassen said.

The find was made by the Norwegian unit of the Royal Dutch/Shell group in early February.

Geologists have said the Barents, off the northern coast of Norway and the Soviet Union, may contain some of the world's largest untapped petroleum reserves. So far, only gas and traces of non-recoverable oil have been found.

**Cabinet approves budget**

TOKYO, March 29, (AP): The Japanese cabinet today approved a 9.2-trillion-yen (\$69.8-billion) provisional budget to cover the first 50 days of the new fiscal year beginning Saturday.

The 50-day budget was expected to clear both sides of the Diet (parliament) by the end of the week, said Finance Ministry officials.

The cabinet of Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita drew up the provisional budget after a parliamentary deadlock forced delay of the slated 6.41-trillion-yen (\$469.93-billion) budget for fiscal 1989, beginning April 1.

Since early this month, opposition parties have stalemated Diet proceedings by demanding that Yasuhiro Nakasone, Prime Minister from 1982-87, and his aides testify before a parliamentary committee session regarding their links to a stock-robbing scandal.

**Pact to sell ad space in space**

MOSCOW, March 29, (UPI): The Soviet Union has signed a deal to sell advertising space — in space, of all places.

The Tass news agency said today that Glavkosmos, the Soviet commercial space agency, concluded a contract with a Swiss firm that includes selling advertising space on the space suits of cosmonauts and attaching two foot by nine foot advertising billboards to the hull of the orbiting Mir space station.

Hoardings will also be built at launch pads at Baikonour, the main launching area, in Central Asia.

Besides the advertising patches on the space suits and the outdoor space billboards, clients will have the opportunity to have a three minute commercial filmed by cosmonauts onboard the Mir.

Clients will also be permitted to send a kilogramme (2.2 pounds) of cargo into space. The idea is that the cargo which could be something like postage stamps or some promotional item can then be touted as having been in outer space and give it added value.



A customer trying to taste new Rothmans 100s.  
**New Rothmans 100s launched**

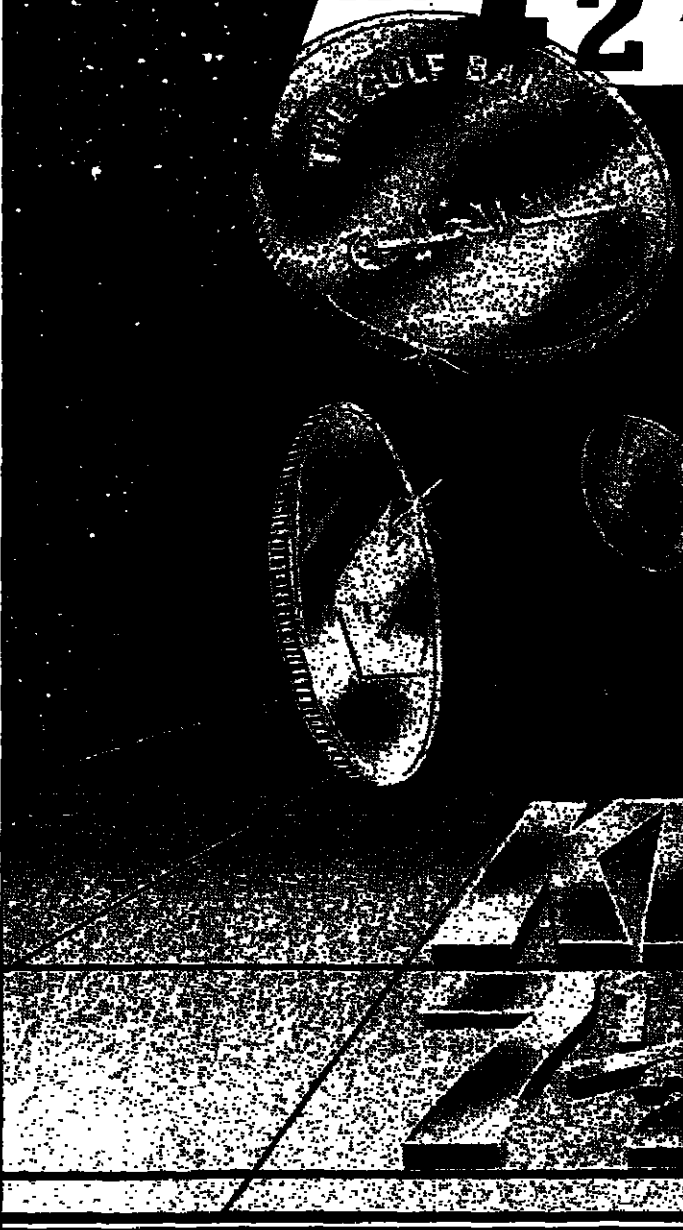
M/S Mohammed Abdul Salam Shuaib and Bros Trading Company has announced the launch of the new "Rothmans 100s Deluxe Virginia" cigarettes in the Kuwait market after its huge success in the UK.

Made from the best tobacco money can buy, Rothmans 100s has attractively packaged in the familiar

blue and white house design of Rothmans of Pall Mall, blenders of fine cigarettes through six reigns of English monarchs.

Rothmans 100s are available at all major retail outlets at the same price as Rothmans Kingsize (at 0.250 fils a pack — 0.225 fils at Co-ops).

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**JINAN YAO-QIANG AIRPORT PROJECT**

No. FB8907

In accordance with the loan agreement concluded between the Chinese government and Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development for Jinan Yao-Qiang Airport, FIEC International Tendering Company is authorized to purchase, by way of international competitive bidding, the equipment and materials for the above-mentioned project. All purchases shall be financed with the proceeds of the loan.

**List of equipment and materials**

1. Concrete truck mixer
2. Concrete pump truck
3. Steel products 3,190 T
4. Timber 2,280 cm

All those who are willing to bid are kindly requested to contact FIEC International Tendering Company for obtaining bidding documents. From March 28 to April 18, 1989, a non-refundable payment of USD 250 for each set of the documents is required. Pls add USD 30 for the courier charge together with the payment if purchasing the documents by mail.

The deadline for receipt of bids by FIEC is before 10:00 am June 13, 1989. Bids received after that date and time or which are not accompanied by a bid bond furnished as provided for in the bidding conditions will not be accepted. Bids will be opened in public in Huafu Hotel, Fuzhou, China at 9:00 am on June 14, 1989.

**FIEC International Tendering Company, Fujian,**  
RM. 222 East Building, Hua Fu Hotel, Fuzhou, China  
Telex: 92124 FIEC CN  
Telephone: 554478, 551022

مكتبة



سكرا منى

EVENTS



A part of the crowd that gathered for the lottery.

Winner strikes gold

THE Hungry Bunny Lottery Draw was held on March 23 in the presence of representatives of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and Ministry of Interior. A large number of people gathered at Hungry Bunny, Keifan, for the draw.

The first prize — one kilo of gold — was won by the holder of the lucky No. 38340. The second prize — a return ticket to London — was won by No. 44567. The third prize — a computer — was won by No. 26583; and the fourth prize — a motorcycle — was won by No. 8109.

The winners are requested to collect their prizes from Al Homaizi Food Stuff, Al Sour Street, Yacoub Yousuf Al Homaizi Bldg., third floor, or call before 12 pm today to claim the prizes. Tel: 2417123/4/5/6/7. The winners must claim their prizes within one month from the date of the draw. If the winners fail to show up within that period, the prizes will be given to holders of the following contingency numbers (also drawn on March 23):

First Prize: No. 82781  
Second Prize: No. 74572  
Third Prize: No. 3427  
Fourth Prize: No. 6624.



● Pakistan's Minister for Manpower and Overseas Pakistanis, Malik Muneer Ahmad (second from right) pictured with guests during a reception held in his honour at the Ministry of Interior. (Photo by Javed Basrai)

Child artists win prizes

THE winners of the Mercedes Benz drawing contest on "traffic safety" received their prizes at a ceremony held at the Shuwaikh Showroom of Al Bisher & Al Kazemi.

More than 300 boys and girls took part in the contest. The 30 winners were selected by a panel of judges, comprising Mahmoud Radwan and Youssef Al Qatani of the Formative Arts Society; Mohammad Abdullah Al Sheikh Al Fares of the Ministry of Education and Menaie Al Refai of the Ministry of Interior.

Mohammad Al Bisher, managing director of the company, Udo Danzer, general manager and Professor D. Diekmann, distributed the prizes. Sakher Al Khatib and Talal Hamed addressed the guests.

Photo on right shows: Udo Danzer (second right) pictured with one of the winners during the prize giving ceremony.



WHAT'S ON

ARTS

**Sultan Gallery**  
UNTIL April 7: Paintings by Shaker Hussain are on show at the gallery, Thunayan Al Ghanim Bldg., Al Soor St., daily from 9 am to 12 noon and 5 to 8 pm.

**Modern Soviet Art**  
UNTIL April 6: Modern Soviet art is on show at the Kuwait National Museum. Organised by the Soviet embassy in co-operation with the museum. Open during museum hours.

**Free Atelier Studio**  
UNTIL April 8: A Jordanian art exhibition is open at the Free Atelier Studio, Gulf St., daily from 8 am to 12 noon and 4 to 8 pm. The show has been organised by the Jordanian embassy in co-operation with the National Council for Culture Arts and Letters.

**Ghadir Gallery**  
APRIL 2 to 13: Yemeni artist, Abdullah Al Amin will show his latest paintings at the Ghadir Gallery, Saliha Complex. The exhibition will be open from 9 am to 12.30 pm and 4.30 to 8.30 pm.

**Formative Arts Show**  
UNTIL April 5: A formative art show is being held at the Dahiyat Abdullah Al Salem Gallery. More than 80 paintings by Arab and Gulf artists are on display. Open daily from 8 am to 12 noon and 4 to 8 pm.

**Kuwait Science Museum**  
OPEN Saturday-Wednesday, 4.30 - 5.30 pm only. Natural history exhibits from in and around Kuwait, including blue whale. Closed on Thursday and Friday.

**Islamic Arts Museum**  
SAT-THURS: 8.30 am to 12.30 noon and 4.30 to 7.30 pm. Collection includes rare Islamic artefacts, Quranic manuscripts, ceramics, carpets and marine equipment. Arabian Gulf St.

**Tareq Rajab Museum**  
SAT-THURS: 9 am to 12 noon; 4 to 7 pm; Fridays: 9 am to 12 noon. Collection of Islamic arts, costumes and jewellery from the Muslim world.

**Sadu House**  
SAT-THURS: 9 am to 12 noon; 4 to 7 pm. Exhibits include bedouin handicrafts — bags, saddle bags, cushions and textiles. Closed on Friday.

MUSIC

**Open Air Concert**  
MARCH 31: 5 pm. Steve Michael with the Zambezi will perform in the Peace and Love Concert at the Salmiya Club Stadium. Tickets — K.D. 2 — available at Swan Lake, Salmiya and Kuwait City, and the No. 1 Records, Sultan Centre, Salmiya. The concert is in aid of charity.

**Band Concert**  
MARCH 31: Vishal Arts present a band concert featuring symphony and Perfect Strangers from 3.30 pm at the Sharq Co-operative Hall. At 6 pm the group will present a variety show with Hindi, Urdu and Punjabi music and folk dances. For details call Anthony Souza or Arjun Gehi. Tel: 331826 or 2663693 after 3.30 pm.

**SAAZ aur Awaz**  
SAAZ aur Awaz, a musical group, invites new singers to join them for their next concert "Bhoolay Bhairav Greet and Ghazals" due to be held on May 19. For details call Anwar Abdullah 3989111 ext. 6811, 8 am to 3 pm.



● Tunisian singers Chokri Bouzaine (above) and Maliha Qarantani will take part in a one night Tunisian Festival at the Meridian Hotel. They will be accompanied by Layalina, a popular Arab band and folk dancers. The barbecue and buffet features Tunisian cuisine including roast lamb, couscous and other dishes will be offered at the barbecue and dinner.

THEATRE

**ACT**  
MARCH 30 (8 pm): ACT presents Jean Giraudoux' comic fantasy "The Madwoman of Chaillot," directed by George Plautz, at Mousetrap Theatre, Jabriya. Reduced ticket price for opening night. For reservations call 5731782 (answerphone) or 5755391, 5-7 pm.

**Malayalam Drama**  
APRIL 7: Gayathri Arts will present their first Malayalam drama "Karutha Pannam" at Indian Arts Circle. Written by Chandran and directed by Nandan Ingalakuda. For entry passes call 5643126.

SOCIAL

**Bangladesh Association**  
MARCH 31: (7 pm) The Bangladesh Association will hold a cultural function to mark the Independence and National Day of Bangladesh. The event will be held at the Hawalli Labour Union Hall. All Bangladeshis are welcome.



● Some members of the Vishal Music Group who will take part in a concert on Friday at the Sharq Co-operative Society. Singers Arjun Gehi, John Uttaman, Genevieve Sequeira, Kusum Sagar and Giniya Radhakrishnan will present songs in Hindi and Punjabi. The show will be punctuated by folk dances and surprise items.

pm, at the Holiday Inn Ballroom. All members are urgently requested to attend.  
**St Georges Day**  
APRIL 20: KLT celebrate St Georges Day at Unity Centre, Ahmadi. Entertainment and refreshments. To join them, call 3983724; 3985964.

HOTELS

**At Meeslah Beach**  
**MUBARAKIYAH** Restaurant: Open 24 hours, buffet breakfast, lunch and dinner and snacks. Sundays: Ladies Day; Mondays: birthday special; Fridays: special buffet "a go go".

**At the Holiday Inn**  
THURSDAY night is Indian night featuring exotic eastern cuisine; and listen to the music played by the Gharbian Trio.

Enjoy Arabian Night in Al Andalus Supper Club on Thursday nights. Friday brunch — fun time for families, games, prizes. Also open to Jayce Club members.

**At the Sheraton**  
**RICCARDO'S**: Italian cuisine prepared using home-made pasta; lunch and dinner, evening entertainment by the Sienna's Duo. Closed on Fridays.

**Al Hambra**: Sundays: Lebanese cuisine; Tuesday's is Thai Night; Wednesday's: seafood night; musicians provide a blend of music from the East and the West. Friday's buffet brunch while the children enjoy games in the Ballroom next door.

**Hunt Room**: lunch and dinner, specialises in meat and fish dishes.

**Le Tarbouche**: offers a taste of Lebanon for lunch and dinner. Thursdays: Arab world specialties night. Coffee Shop offers casual meals and quick lunches plus a daily special.

**At the Ramada**  
**AL BENDAR** Coffee Shop offers Continental and Arabic buffets for breakfast, lunch and dinner; 6 am to midnight: a la carte available.

Thursday's is BBQ Night at Le Mirage Night Club, with full buffet and entertainment by the Al Arzz Band.

The Friday Family Brunch introduces cartoon characters on the ship's discovery; train tour of the hotel's garden and waterfront.

The Marina Takeaway Counter features a selection of sandwiches and snacks, 4 pm to 11 pm.

**At the Continental**  
**GARDENIA**: 7 am to midnight; buffets featuring Arabic.

Continental and Indian food. Special buffet for Thursday dinner and Friday lunch. Dabbar: daily Indian lunch buffet, except Friday: a la carte dinner.

**At the Kuwait Plaza**  
**AL DALLAH** Coffee Shop: Breakfast buffet, lunch and dinner; also set menu: mini-business lunch.

**Marco Polo Restaurant**: Italian food, live music by the Duonova band.

**Lolouwah Corner**: Open from 4 to 10 pm, offering snacks and refreshments.

**At the Pullman**  
**ELYSEES** Restaurant offers gourmet French meal; Al Shallah Coffee Shop features international and Arabic cuisine with live entertainment.

**At the SAS**  
**BISTRETTO**: A new Italian restaurant has been opened at the hotel. A selection of Italian dishes are offered in addition to international and local specialties prepared by Chef Peter D. Zobist.

**Al Boom**: the floating restaurant will offer a different speciality every two days as well as the Al Boom menu of charcoal grills.

**Peacock Room**: offers a wide variety of Chinese cuisine introduced by chef Von Kwee Kiong.

The Clock Drive-In restaurant serves fast foods and daily specials.

SPORTS

**Volleyball Tournament**  
MARCH 31: The Kuwait Malayalee Association will hold a volleyball tournament for Indians in connection with the Nehru Centenary celebrations. For details call Prem — 4675622 ext. 293 (7 am - 3 pm). Last date for registration is March 15.

**L & M Open Team bowling tournament**  
APRIL 6: 6.30 to 9.30 pm and thereafter every Wednesday and Thursday the open-team bowling tournament will be held at Holiday Inn Hotel; organised by KAPILKU.

**Raft Race**  
APRIL 4: 6.30 pm. A Captains' meeting will be held for Messilah Beach Hotel's third raft race. For details call the hotel, ext. 751.

PRAYERS

Fajr 4.19 am  
Zuhr 11.52  
Asr 3.23 pm  
Maghreb 6.06  
Isha 7.23

FRIDAY

Fajr 4.18 am  
Zuhr 11.52  
Asr 3.23 pm  
Maghreb 6.07  
Isha 7.24

NIGHT CHEMIST

**Kuwait**  
Al Baghdad Pharmacy  
Abdullah Al Salem St.  
Ibn Sina Pharmacy  
Mubarak Al Kabir St.

**Hawalli and Nagra**  
Al Noora Pharmacy  
Othman St.

**Salmiya and Rumailhiya**  
Al Fida Pharmacy  
Ahmed Jarallah Bldg., Khansa St.

**Fahaheel and Ahmadi**  
Burgan Pharmacy  
Souk Sabah, F'heel

**Farwaniya**  
Al Madinah Pharmacy  
Sulaiman Saleh  
North St.

**Jahra**  
Al Zahra Pharmacy  
New Commercial Market

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

9.00 Holy Quran  
9.15 Cartoons  
9.45 Tum Tek and Children  
10.00 Magazine D'Actualite  
10.30 The Death of the Hare: English feature film.  
11.30 Fi Rihab Tarbiya: In the field of Education. Part 2.  
1.00 News  
1.05 World today via satellite  
1.45 Songs and Music  
2.30 Sports in a Week: a weekly programme focusing on local and world sports.  
4.45 Cartoons  
5.15 Liqa Al Khamis: presented by Jamil Hmoud  
7.00 New Summary  
7.05 From People's Art  
7.30 Show Jumping: local equestrian events  
8.30 With Islam: hosted and presented by Dr Khalid Al Madhkur  
9.00 News in Arabic  
10.00 A special programme about the intifada (uprising) in the occupied territories  
10.30 Al Rajul Yahub Marratani: Arabic film, starring: Mahmoud Abdul Aziz, Shahira, Laila Alwi, Dalal Abdul Aziz, Wabid Saif, Hala Sudqi  
12.15 Akhtarna Lakum: We Present...  
1.15 News Summary  
1.20 World today via satellite: Holy Quran. Closedown

FRIDAY

9.00 Holy Quran  
9.15 Cartoons  
9.45 Children's Magazine followed by songs and music  
10.15 Faez Al Tush: Arabic serial, starring

Ghanem Al Slatti, Abdul Aziz Jassem  
11.00 Abadith Mauduwa  
11.15 Friday prayer and Friday sermon  
12.30 Alwan  
1.00 News  
1.05 World today via satellite  
1.35 Varneth  
2.15 Hadith Deen: religious talk by Sheikh Mohammad Mawalli  
3.30 Cartoons  
4.00 Hindi film starring Sanjeev Kumar, Leena Chandra, Karan  
6.00 Kuwait in a Week  
7.00 News Summary  
7.45 The Family, presented by Fatima Rushid  
8.45 Hadith Al Usbooh: with Sheikh Ali Al Jassar  
9.00 News  
10.00 Wrestling  
10.45 Amriya Al Juma: local show  
11.30 News Summary  
11.35 World today via satellite  
12.00 Holy Quran Closedown

KTV 2

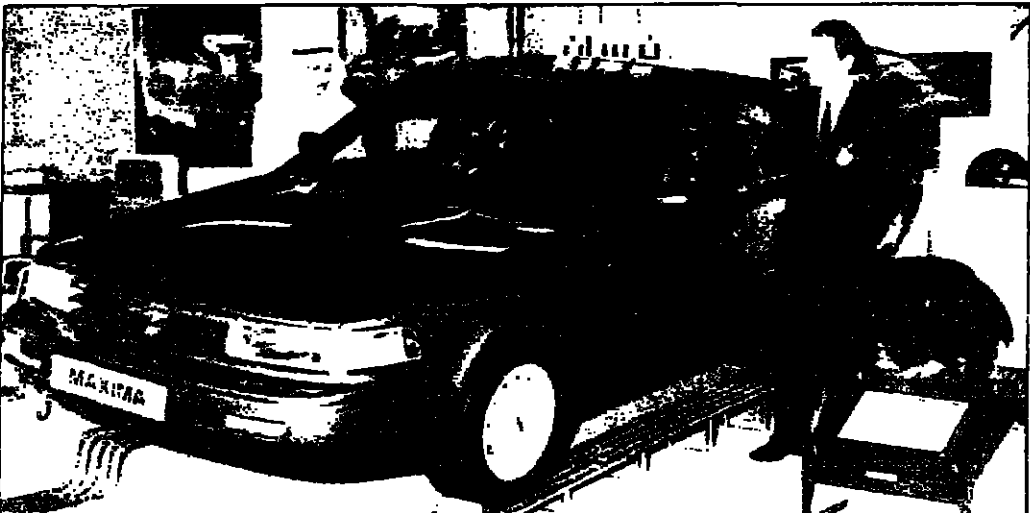
4.00 Opening & Holy Quran  
4.08 Cartoons  
4.26 Football match, Syria vs Saudi Arabia  
6.20 Cartoon serial  
6.30 Short Stories: "First the Egg"  
7.30 Face to Face: local talk show  
8.00 News in English  
8.40 Miami Vice: "Badge of Honour". The vice squad make a plan to frame drug smugglers.  
9.40 Incredible Sunday: features the story of the Chinese acrobats: a child musician and a magic show

10.30 Late Night Movie "Smokey and the Bandit II" Part 2 of the Smokey and the Bandit trilogy, pregnant with elephant jokes. Starring Burt Reynolds, Sally Field and Paul Williams. 101 minutes  
12.00 News Summary Magazine: TV Actualite Holy Quran Closedown

FRIDAY

4.00 Holy Quran  
4.10 The Sylvanian Family: cartoons  
4.30 Italian football  
5.40 American Basketball  
7.30 Star Trek: The New Generation: "We'll Always Have Paris". The Starship Enterprise answers a distress call from another spaceship  
8.00 News in English  
8.40 Breaking Away  
8.55 Big League Soccer: Brian Moore presents English League games  
9.40 Weekend: local programme  
10.00 The Charmings: "Trading Places". Comedy. Lillian makes Luther's wish come true, with some disastrous effects.  
10.30 The Challenge: episode 5.6. In 1983, Australia captured the Americas Cup, ending the 132 years winning streak. This episode dramatises the events leading to the victory.  
11.30 News Summary Magazine: D'Actualite Holy Quran Closedown

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.



● The 1989 Nissan Maxima Abbas was introduced to Kuwait by Ahmad Al Shawaal, Nissan agents at a press conference, introducing the Maxima 1989. Hirovuki Saito, chief of Nissan, Japan, said that the car has been designed for the export market. He said: "We expect 90 per cent of the total production of Maxima to be exported all over the world. Above: Nissan Maxima

CINEMA TODAY

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Mission Terminates (Arabic)  
**Al Salmiya**  
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**Al Hamra**  
Al Majnoun (Arabic)  
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**Drive-In**  
Amber Al Maut (Arabic)  
Starring: Noor Al Shareef, Afaf Shuaib  
**Al Firdous**  
Ram Lakhan (Hindi)  
Starring: Jackie Shroff, Dimple Kapadia, Anil Kapoor  
**Fahaheel Open-Air**  
Juani Dushman (Hindi)  
**Al Fahaheel**  
Phool Sajja (Bengali)

**Al Jahra**  
Zauj Tah Tah (Arabic)  
**Granada**  
Nico  
**Sulaibikhat**  
Daisy (Bengali)  
**Al Jleeb**  
Hum Tere Aashiq Hain (Hindi)  
**Ahmadi Drive-In**  
Ya Azizi Kullana Lisous (Arabic)  
**FRIDAY**  
**Al Jahra**  
Convoy  
**Granada**  
Apna Bana Lo (Hindi)  
**Sulaibikhat**  
Great Monkey Ripoff  
**Al Jleeb**  
Bercham (Hindi)



# ARAB TIMES Classifieds

## LOST

PURSE containing identity card, civil card, health card and 2 certificates for a pipefitter and welder in the name of Mohammed Ashraf, Pakistani, and also KD160. Finder please Tel. 4739255, 4740366.

(AT6-46685-1)

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(AT6-46697-3)

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(AT5-46668-3)

SALMIYA, Amman Street, behind the Qudh Pharmacy. One room for a small family or working girl from 1st April. Tel. Tony, 48321731.

(AT5-46673-3)

NUGRA, Khalidoun Street, one furnished independent room with AC and tele. facilities for one or two bachelors to share with an Indian family. Rent KD80. Tel. Mr. Oberoi, Res. 2644645, Off. 4740801.

(AT6-46699-3)

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(AT6-46686-2)

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(AT6-46682-3)

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(AT5-46678-3)

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(AT5-46672-3)

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(AT4-46665-3)

HONDA Civic '81, maroon, registered up to March 1990, with 4 doors, in good condition. Tel. 4887140, 11 am - 1 pm.

(AT6-46674-2)

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(AT5-46671-3)

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(AT5-46677-3)

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(AT4-46662-3)

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(AT4-46661-3)

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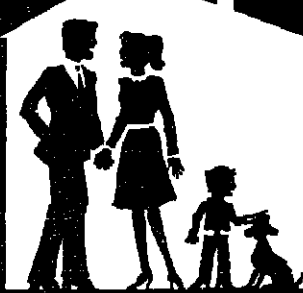
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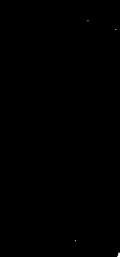
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US skipper Dennis Conner with the America's Cup. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Dennis accepts court ruling

## Cup should be decided on the water, says Conner

SYDNEY, March 29, (AP): America's Cup skipper Dennis Conner today said he accepted the New York court's decision awarding the yachting world's oldest trophy to New Zealand but said he felt the cup should be decided on the water and not in the courts.

Speaking to reporters at a stopover in Sydney on a flight from Japan to New Zealand where he will do a television commercial, Conner, dressed in San Diego yacht club jacket, said: "I'm a sailor not an attorney. Sure I'm disappointed. I spent 3 1/2 years of my life working to return the America's Cup to the United States. I'm disappointed to see it go back without it being contested on the water."

Conner, 44, said he had not been in contact with the San Diego Yacht Club and did not know if they would appeal the New York Supreme Court verdict but he said there was strong commercial pressure in San Diego to do so.

He said he first learned of the decision when a stewardess informed him during the flight from Tokyo.

He refused to concede his victory last year in a fast twin-hulled catamaran over a slower single-hulled New Zealand yacht was unfair.

"I did the best I could with the cards dealt to me. I was part of a team. If the court decided that was not proper, I accept that," he said.

In a later television interview with the channel 9 network, Conner said he would abide by the court's decision, adding that he personally was against any appeal.

"I'm not pleased or happy but I think that's the right thing to do," he said. "The America's Cup should be raced for on the water and not in the courts."

"I think it's high time we get the cup back out on the water. That's what the American public would like and that's what the world would like."

Fay said the decision of Supreme Court justice Carmen Ciparick had upheld the spirit of the yachting competition and would lead to immediately begin preparations for a defence in 1991.

The judge has very succinctly

spelled out the rules under which the America's Cup is to be raced and put the event back on the top shelf," said Fay, adding he expected "up to 25" challengers for yachting's most famous trophy, including seven from the United States.

"The challengers will want to get cracking quickly and we'll be on target by tomorrow," said the Auckland merchant banker.

He said the Mercury Bay Club, as defender, would soon hold talks with the Royal Perth Yacht Club, which has been chosen as the "challenger of record" by the challenging teams.

Fay said he was disappointed there was not a proper contest last September, when the New Zealand monohull challenger was overwhelmed 2-0 by Dennis Conner's Stars and Stripes catamaran during the San Diego Yacht Club's defence.

"You go to race and we'd done so much work on that boat. Everyone wanted to see the same sort of boats out there for a real race," he said.

"All New Zealand is excited about it and the challenge now is for us to put on an America's cup we want to compete in and that people will want to watch."

The mood was bitter in San Diego. "Obviously, we're more than a little surprised," said Tom Mitchell, a spokesman for the America's Cup Organizing Committee. "We are holding out the possibility of an appeal. But we can't comment until we see the decision."

"Michael Fay has always used the judges because he couldn't win on the water," said Brian Bilbray, head of San Diego America's Cup task force. "Sailors in the water, not attorneys in court, should decide where the cup goes."

"I'm very disappointed with judge Ciparick's ruling," said mayor Maureen O'Connor. "She should have clarified the rules before the race was ever held. I hate to say this decision was politically motivated but we all know the New York Yacht Club wanted the cup to go New Zealand so they could compete for it on foreign soil in 1991... there's no question Michael Fay has the best attorney and the New York Yacht Club the best judge."

# Judge disqualifies San Diego Yacht Club

## America's Cup awarded to New Zealand

NEW YORK, March 29, (AP): A Manhattan judge has disqualified the San Diego Yacht Club as the winner in last year's America's Cup challenge and awarded the international sailing trophy to the defeated New Zealand Club.

State supreme court justice Carmen Ciparick said San Diego "violated the spirit" of the race by using a 60-foot (18-metre) at the water line.

San Diego's catamaran is the "Stars and Stripes," a multi-hulled boat that is lighter, faster and more manoeuvrable than the "New Zealand."

Skipped by Dennis Conner, the San Diego crew sailed to easy victory over the Mercury Bay Club in waters off San Diego last September.

Calling the contest a "gross mismatch," the judge ordered the 158-year-old silver cup turned over to the New Zealanders.

Surprised Tom Mitchell, a spokesman for San Diego, said he was surprised by the ruling and that his group would review the decision and decide what action to take next.

The leader of the New Zealand syndicate, Michael Fay, expressed no such surprise.

"It had to come sooner or later," he said from Wellington, New Zealand. "We were always strong in our belief in what the Cup meant and I think the Cup has come through."

Fay said the America's Cup itself was the real winner and the ruling would be good for the integrity of the event.

In her 14-page decision, the judge said: "The court is mindful that forfeiture is a drastic remedy in the instance of a competition such as the America's Cup, with its large economic significance and prestige."

"Nonetheless, the parties neither seek or suggest any alternative relief upon the disqualification of a competitor, nor is any alternative relief feasible under the circumstances."

The judge said the 102-year-old deed of gift which governs the race does not specify the size a boat must be or the number of hulls it must have.

But, she said, "the conclusion is inescapable" that George Schuyler, who established the race, "contemplated the defending vessel to relate in some way to the specifications of the challenger."

Therefore, Ciparick said, "It is clear that a catamaran may not

defend an America's Cup competition against a monohull."

The Cup was first won in 1851 by the yacht "America" in a race against several boats of the Royal Yacht Club in England. In 1857, the "America" syndicate decided the cup to the New York Yacht Club with a trust document establishing the competition and its terms. The deed was revised by Schuyler in 1882 and again in 1887.

The New York group kept the cup for 131 years before losing it to the Royal Perth Yacht Club of Australia in 1983 at Newport, Rhode Island.

Won The San Diego Club, led by Conner, won the America's cup in 1987 in Australia from the Perth Group.

The Mercury Bay Group first came to court in July 1987, arguing they should be allowed to challenge San Diego in a one-on-one race for the Cup in a boat larger than the 12-metre (39.3-foot) yacht that had been used in America's Cup contests since 1956.

San Diego rejected the challenge as invalid because the New Zealanders' boat had not been built when the challenge was issued.

The Fay group also wanted the race held within a year after the Perth contest, an interval less than every three to four years that had been the recent custom.

The trust document only requires a 10-month interval between races and sets no limit for boat length; it also does not require a series of elimination races as there have been for the past several decades.

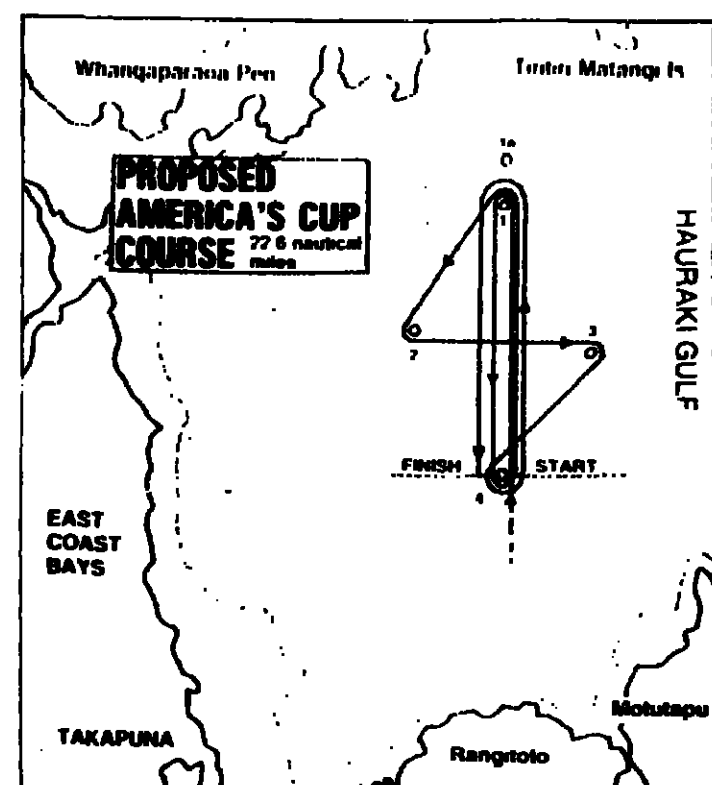
The judge agreed on Dec 21, 1987, and ordered San Diego to defend the Cup against New Zealand. San Diego was to use the 12-metre boat, which runs about 45 feet (13.7 metres) at the waterline.

But Conner instead decided to use a catamaran. Fay asked the judge to find San Diego in contempt for preparing to sail such a vessel but she refused to bar the catamaran's use.

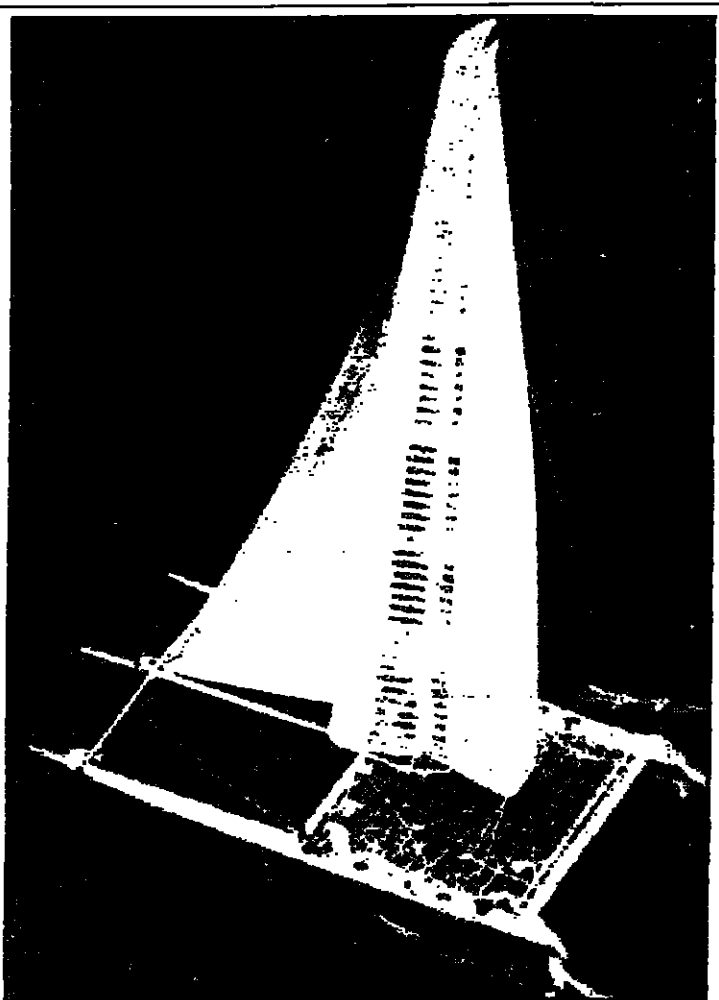
After losing the San Diego race, Fay asked Ciparick to void the result.

"This is not a hollow victory when you see the issues that were at stake," Fay said today. "The real winner is the Cup and its traditions."

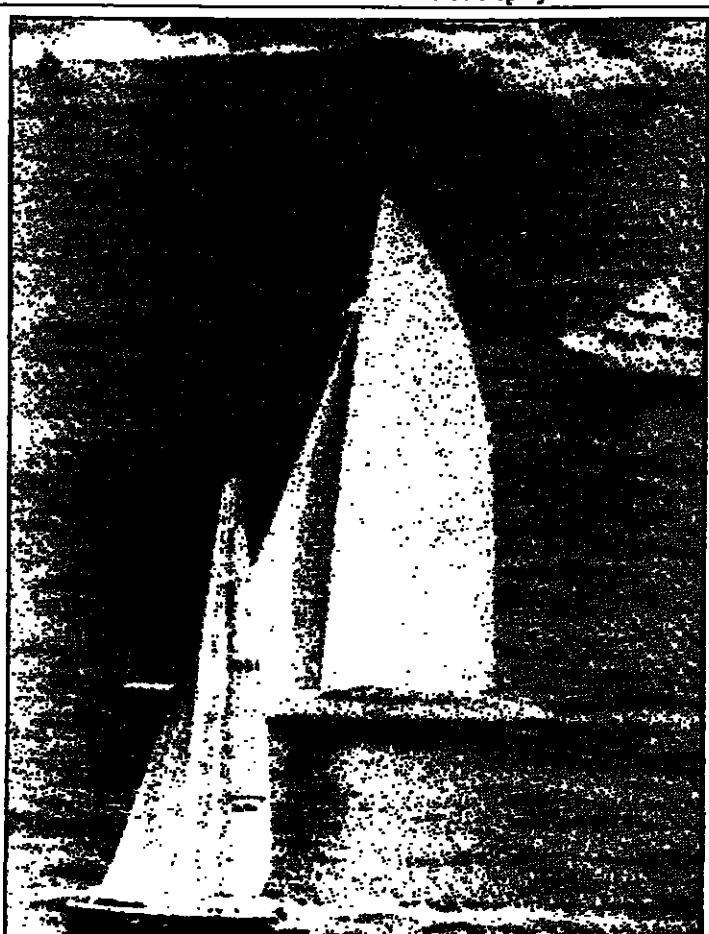
He said the club had not made plans to take physical possession of the cup or decided where it would be displayed.



Map of the proposed course for the America's Cup challenge to be sailed in Auckland in 1991, which was released by the New Zealand Syndicate during a press conference yesterday. (Reuters wirephoto)



Picture shows the Stars and Stripes, skippered by Dennis Conner. (Reuters wirephoto)



The '88 America's Cup that pitted American Dennis Conner and his 60ft hi-tech catamaran against challenger Michael Fay of New Zealand, and his 132ft monohull sloop (K2-1), shown in this Sept 9 race photo. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Court ruling blocks chances of appealing

AUCKLAND, New Zealand, March 29, (Reuters): A New Zealand lawyer who wrested the America's cup from the San Diego Yacht Club in a legal battle said today that the court ruling virtually killed any chance of the Californians appealing.

But Andrew Johns warned that any appeal against a New York state court decision to award yachting's most prestigious trophy to New Zealand could block plans for the next America's Cup regatta in 1991.

Yesterday, judge Carmen Ciparick ruled that San Diego had violated rules dating from the last century when they entered a catamaran to beat off a challenge from New Zealand's Mercury Bay Boating Club last September.

The decision means the tiny Mercury Bay Boating Club, which doesn't even have a proper club house, gained possession of the cup without ever winning a race.

Appeal The San Diego Yacht Club said yesterday that it would decide within a few days whether to appeal the decision. The New Zealanders' conventional single-hull boat was outclassed by the catamaran in a race series off San Diego dubbed "the mismatch of the century."

"I think there is a very limited chance (of an appeal) simply because of the way the judge has written her decision," Johns told a news conference. "It has already been described by our lawyer in New York as watertight."

Ciparick said in her written judgement, made yesterday, "To sail multi-hulled vessel against a monohulled yacht... is considered in the opinion of most boating authorities to create a mismatch and violate the (Cup's) donor's primary purpose of fostering friendly competition."

Asked if an appeal could delay Mercury Bay's defence of the cup, expected to be held off Auckland in early 1991, Johns said: "Yes, but they would not really be hurting us. They would just be hurting the other challengers around the world."

Tom Ehman, vice president of the America's Cup Organising Committee, told a hastily called news conference in San Diego: "We will do what is best for the Cup."

Brian Bilbray, who heads the San Diego America's Cup task force, summed up the feeling of San Diegans about the trophy that was won on the water but lost in the courts.

## US loses America's Cup for the second time

NEW YORK, March 29, (Reuters): The United States has lost the America's Cup only twice in 138 years — once when it was beaten by Australia II in 1983 and yesterday when a judge ordered the trophy forfeited to a New Zealand Yacht Club.

Throughout the years yachting's premier event has seen numerous protests and counter-protests after races, but never anything on the scale of the current feud between the San Diego Yacht Club and New Zealand's Mercury Bay Boating Club.

The winner — for the time being — of the latest contest is merchant banker Michael Fay, even though his aircraft-carrier-like sloop New Zealand was soundly beaten last September by Stars and Stripes, a much smaller catamaran skippered by defending champion Dennis Conner.

The trouble was that Conner's 60-foot (18.3 metre) multi-hulled vessel with its rigid aircraft wing

sail was inherently faster than Fay's 133-foot (40.5 metre) sloop. In essence the catamaran darted along the surface of the water while New Zealand carved through the waves off San Diego.

Foul Fay cried "foul" and New York state Supreme Court Justice Carmen Ciparick agreed, ruling that San Diego displayed poor sportsmanship in attempting "to retain the Cup at all costs so that it could host a competition on its own terms."

The judge ordered the venerable trophy forfeited to Mercury Bay, which will host the next series in 1991 — unless the courts decide otherwise.

The America's Cup first came to the United States in 1851 when the New York Yacht Club sent a lone schooner, America, to England to compete against a score of British vessels in the Hundred-Guinea Cup.

America won and the trophy was renamed after it, George Schuyler, the original owner of

the trophy, put it up again as an international sailing race to be governed by rules set out in a "deed of gift" under the jurisdiction of the New York courts.

Over the next 132 years the New York Yacht Club successfully defended the America's Cup every three or four years against foreign challenges, sailing off the elegant Rhode Island City of Newport, which became synonymous with the event.

Defend Over the years the huge "J Boats", up to 145 feet (44.2 metres) long, were scaled down, and for about 50 years the 12-metres were accepted class.

Apart from disputes over such issues as the origin of equipment — until recent years everything had to be produced in the country of the challenging boat — the series remained remarkably free of controversy until 1983.

In that year Australia II used a radical new weapon, a winged keel, to wrest the trophy from the

United States for the first time by four races to three.

Conner, the losing skipper, at one time threatened law suits against the Royal Perth Yacht Club boat but dropped his threat, explaining it was not in the spirit of the event to delay the race by legal proceedings.

"That was the first time there had been a change of design that really went to the heart of the competition," Oliver Moore, publishing director of "Yachting" magazine, told Reuters.

"It was the first real breakthrough in challenging the accepted format of the 12-metres and created a new perspective toward design."

The 1987 series off Fremantle saw more revolutionary changes, including rudders in the bow of the ship as well as at the stern, and New Zealand unveiled a fibre-glass boat which many competitors complained was unfair to their aluminium designs.

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**ROWENA FERNANDEZ**



who expired on 29.3.1989  
May her soul rest in peace

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## Romania beat Italy

SIBIU, Romania, March 29. (UPI) Romania beat Italy 1-0 today in a friendly international soccer match played before a capacity 20,000 fans in this small Carpathian mountain town in Transylvania, legendary haunt of the vampire Count Dracula.

Romania's winning goal was scored in the 48th minute — three minutes into the second half — by midfielder Sabau. Sabau fired a shot from the edge of the penalty area which rebounded off an Italian defender. He pounced on the rebound and fired an angled shot past goalkeeper Walter Zenga, Italy's star of the match.

It was the first time in six friendly matches played this season that the young Italian team has failed to win. As host of the 1990 World Cup, Italy does not have to qualify and is playing the series of friendly matches to whip its team into shape.

On Saturday Italy beat Austria 1-0 in Vienna in the other match of this two-game tour.

But the Romanians, as expected, showed fast tackling and forceful play, preventing Italian star Gianluca Vialli and his teammates from weaving their traditional patterns of attack.

Most of the match was battled out in midfield, with both defenses keeping the opposition clear of their penalty areas.

At the outset in bright sunshine, 10 of the Romanian team were from the star Bucharest clubs Steaua and Dinamo.

## Spurs deepen Luton's gloom

LONDON, March 29. (Reuters) Tottenham Hotspur plunged Luton deeper into relegation trouble in the English First Division yesterday when they beat the League Cup finalists 3-1 away with a barrage of second half goals.

Luton captain Steve Foster headed the home side into the lead three minutes before the interval but David Howells equalised 10 minutes after the break and two goals in the last nine minutes sealed it for Spurs.

Former Luton striker Paul Walsh made it 2-1 for Spurs from a rebound after Gary Mabbutt had crashed a shot against a post and Paul Gascoigne cheekily kicked round Foster to notch the third a minute from the final whistle.

Spurs, bottom of the table last November, moved up to seventh but Luton looked in deep trouble after their third consecutive defeat on their own synthetic pitch.

They have 30 points from 31 matches with two of three clubs below them only one point behind with games in hand.

Chelsea rode their luck to hasten their march back to the First Division one season after relegation by stretching their lead in the Second Division to seven points with a 1-0 win at Ipswich.

Ipswich missed three glorious chances before Gordon Durie scored in the 84th minute to extend Chelsea's unbeaten run to 24 games.

Results		
English Division One		
Luton	1	Tottenham
English Division Two		
Ipswich	0	Chelsea
Scottish Division One		
Clyde	0	Partick
Falkirk	2	Ayr
Scottish Division Two		
Dumbarton	2	Montrose



The Governor of the Capital, Sheikh Jaber Abdullah Jaber Al Sabah, (pictured above) is going to patronize the closing ceremony for NBK's Open tennis tournament on Saturday, April 1, 1989 at Ramada Al Salam Hotel. Over 380 players have participated in one of the most organised tournaments in Kuwait.

The tournament includes 11 official events and three others on an invitation basis. The Ambassador events and the Pro event started yesterday. The tournament is experiencing a tough competition as all the national team players are participating in it. All the final matches will take place on Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

## Sabatini, Sukova and Garrison advance

### Chris Evert struggles through to semifinals

KEY BISCAYNE, Florida, March 29. (UPI) After more than three hours of inconsistency, Chris Evert found perfection when she needed it.

Evert, 34, had struggled throughout her quarterfinal match against Helen Kelesi at the Lipton International Players Championships, and the third set went to a tie-breaker after Evert failed to hold her serve while leading 5-3.

But that is when the six-time US Open champion found her form. Evert won seven straight points in the tie-breaker to eliminate Kelesi 6-3, 4-6, 7-6 (7-0).

**Perfect**  
"I played a perfect tie-breaker, but not a perfect match," Evert said.

She double-faulted 10 times and held only eight of 15 service games. But against Kelesi, 19, of Canada, Evert was able to overcome those imperfections and win the three-hour, 17-minute match.

"I was in trouble, the third set especially," she said. "This is one of those matches where you just guts it out."

In other matches at the International Tennis Centre, top-seeded Gabriela Sabatini defeated Isabelle Demongeot of France 6-1, 7-5; third-seeded Helena Sukova eliminated Raffaella Reggi 5-7, 6-4, 6-3; and fifth-seeded Zina Garrison also advanced to the semifinals with a 6-4, 5-7, 6-1 win over Jana Novotna.

Garrison, Evert and Sukova advanced despite losing a set for the first time in the tournament. In the semifinals, Sabatini will play Sukova and Evert meets Garrison.

There was no men's singles play yesterday. The men's quarterfinal matches will be played today, with Ivan Lendl playing Aaron Krickstein, Kevin Curren facing Emilio Sanchez, Yannick Noah going against Carl-Uwe Steeb, and Thomas Muster facing Jim Grabb.

In a match that ended at 1:50 am yesterday, Grabb defeated Alberto Mancini 6-7 (3-7), 6-4, 7-6 (7-5), 6-7 (4-7), 6-4.

Kelesi, ranked 14th in the world and the 11th seed, admitted that just prior to the tie-breaker, she was overwhelmed

by the prospect of beating Evert. "When it's 6-6 and you're playing Chris Evert and it's the quarterfinals, those little things kind of get into your head," Kelesi said. "It (the loss) is a little bit of a let-down. I feel I played a great match."

**Fought**  
"I played Chris twice before and it's never been close. But after a match like that, you can't help but let a few tears roll out. It was a long match and I fought my guts out."

Kelesi began the match with an inflamed right ankle, and injured her left ankle in the fifth game of the third set, but the injury did not slow her down on the court.

"I thought she ran like a deer the whole match," Evert said. Both Evert and Sabatini had their matches interrupted by a rain delay of approximately one hour, and Evert said the delay had a negative effect on her game.

"I felt like I was in control of the match before," the delay, Evert said. "I need to get out there and run around and get the blood flowing. That's one area

when you get older, you feel stiffer and need to be moving around."

Garrison, 25, of Houston, played a strong third set to beat Novotna, a Czech who had upset Pam Shriver to reach the quarterfinals.

"I started coming in (to the net) and my shots started falling," said Garrison, a former baseliner who now prefers to serve and volley. "I think also in the third set I got some shots back she didn't expect. That kind of broke her back."

Sabatini breezed through her first set, then broke Demongeot at love in the final game to win their match.

"I had a very good first set," Sabatini said. "In the second set, she started serving better, and that's why it was so hard to win."

Demongeot, ranked 42nd, was playing in the quarterfinals of a 128-draw tournament for the first time.

Sabatini will be playing in the semifinals for the first time in her five years at the tournament.

"I'm getting closer," she said. "I think I'm playing really well, with confidence."



Evert beats Kelesi

## Top nations breeze through in table tennis

### Young Swede wins opening match

DORTMUND, West Germany, March 29. (Reuters) Young Swede Peter Karlsson lived up to the responsibilities placed on him in his World Table Tennis Championship debut today when he helped the European champions to an easy opening win.

Rising star Karlsson, 19, contributed two victories as Sweden swept to a 5-0 victory over Barbados without dropping a set in the round robin which opens the team event.

Former European champion Joergen Persson also won twice and Mikael Appelgren, the current occupant of the European throne, beat Errol Skeete 21-8 21-8.

**Frustration**  
The top nations, including China, Sweden and North and South Korea, all breezed through their opening team event group matches without dropping a set, prompting frustration for both winners and losers alike.

He became the first player to score a century in both innings of the final and was also the first Western Australian to score 150 in both innings of a Shield match.

With a draw the obvious outcome, Marsh continued to find the gaps and reached 105 not out.

"These sort of games are not interesting either for us or the spectators," said West German number two Steffen Fetzner after helping the host nation defeat lowly Iceland 5-0 in just 70 minutes in their first round robin match.

"For the next championship qualification rounds must be introduced."

His team-mate Joerg Roskopf, bronze medalist at last year's European Championship, said the record number of entries — from 78 nations — made for a chaotic playing schedule on the 32 tables in Dortmund's Westfalenhallen.

"With so much coming and going in the hall it is like a beehive," he said. "It is so difficult to keep your concentration against opponents like this."

But International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF) officials have several times considered and rejected the idea of qualifying rounds for the World Championships.

"It is only because of the direct challenge for the world title that governments give money to table tennis federations. ITTF president Ichiro Ogimura said today.

"Many federations say that if they were going into just a qualifying tournament the government would not support them."

Ogimura said the high number of countries made for a better atmosphere at the World Championships but Iceland's Danish trainer Steen Hansen said the smaller teams just felt dejected when they were thrashed so soundly.

"What can you learn when you hardly return the service?" he said. "I can imagine that my players didn't have any fun at all."

Madagascar, who arrived late because of visa difficulties, were beaten by defending champions China.

## Festival cricket match

A MUCH awaited Festival cricket match of veteran cricketers of India and Pakistan which was to take place on Feb 25 was postponed due to the sudden death of the mother of K.C.I. President Sajid Riazvi and is now scheduled to be played tomorrow at the KCL Ground (N.C. in Sabah Al Salam Area).

The match will start at 9:00 am. All the players are requested to reach the ground at 8:45 am.

Asraf Khan, general manager of KIECO, will lead the patron's team while P.K. Marwa will be his deputy. President team will be captained by S.S.N. Ganju, principal of Indian School, while Khawaja Afraz will be his vice-captain.

Zahid Saeed, ambassador of Pakistan will play the match while the other players are as follows:

Shaw, Arun Chandok, Khullar, Itat, Mushtaq Malik, Ravi, Ahmed Hussain, Nisar Memon, Ch. Younus, Salim Pervaz, Ch. Javed, Jaffer Beg, Sarkar, Ali Rizvi, Yahya, M.M. Joshi, Arora, Nasim Farooqi, Krishnan, B.N. Malhotra, Humayun Ashtar, Sahani, Sood, Siddiq, G.A. Allana, Bharia, A.K. Gupta and Sajid Rizvi.

## Westminster System 17 bridge

Results of the Westminster System 17 bridge games held at the Regency Palace hotel on Sunday.

1. Fathi Shalabi & Mugeith Adham  
2. Sherin Bassouni & Ahmed Haid  
3. Wilma Al Khadra & Adly Tiab

1. Magdi Mesdary & Adel Bayoumi  
2. Jaya Sapre & Nareendra Shah  
3. Sudhir Duma & Malek Moutre

Results of the Regency Ladies Bridge Club games played yesterday.

1. Margaret Maynard & Janice Bridges  
2. Clara Bastiere & Dona Matthey  
3. Rina Farah & Nicole Iskandar

Results of the Messiah Ladies Bridge Club game played on March 27.

1. Nabil Akel & Lollo Murtwath  
2. Margaret Maynard & Andrea Goodridge  
3. Lili Akel Jundi & Madge McKenzie

Results of the Messiah Ladies Bridge Club game played on March 27.

1. Nabil Akel & Lollo Murtwath  
2. Jamila Akel & Margaret Robb-Whitaker  
3. Lili Akel Jundi & Madge McKenzie

## Cavaliers score record win

NEW YORK, March 29. (AP) Ron Harper scored 15 of his 26 points during a Cleveland rally late in the third quarter and the Cavaliers reached the 50-victory mark for the first time in their 19 NBA seasons by defeating the Dallas Mavericks 102-90 last night.

Mark Price added 21 points as Cleveland won for the 32nd time in 35 home games.

**Spurt**  
Dallas led 58-53 with 6:32 remaining in the third quarter. Then Harper led a 26-11 Cleveland spurt for a 79-79 lead entering the fourth quarter. Larry Nance, who became the 150th NBA player to score 10,000 points, had eight points in the third quarter.

Derek Harper had 20 points for Dallas, which played without Adrian Dantley, who has a sore right knee.

In other NBA action, it was New Jersey 111, Atlanta 108; Philadelphia 117, Boston 115; New York 128, Portland 124; Chicago 115, Golden State 106; Houston 120, Seattle 117; San Antonio 130, Washington 114; and Phoenix 127, Los Angeles Lakers 104.

**Mets 111, Hawks 108**  
Roy Hinson scored six of his 25

points in the last two minutes as New Jersey snapped a 10-game losing streak overall and a 16-game losing streak against Atlanta.

**Celtics 115, Bulls 112**  
Charles Barkley had 27 points and Hersey Hawkins scored eight of his 21 in overtime. Boston's Reggie Lewis scored a career-high 39 points and Brian Shaw had 18 points and 14 rebounds but the Celtics fell 1-2 games behind second-place Philadelphia in the Atlantic Division.

**Knicks 128, Trail Blazers 124**  
Mark Jackson had 27 points, 10 rebounds and 12 assists and Kiki Vandeweghe scored 24 points in his first game against his former Portland teammates. Vandeweghe, acquired from the Trail Blazers on Feb 23 for a first-round draft pick, had his most productive game for the Knicks.

**Bulls 115, Warriors 106**  
Michael Jordan had his sixth triple-double of the season and scored 14 of his 33 points in the final quarter last night as Chicago won its fifth consecutive game. Jordan had 12 rebounds and 11 assists. He made a pair of short jumpers during a 12-3 fourth-quarter spurt that gave the Bulls a 103-88 lead.

## W. Australia win shield final

PERTH, Australia, March 29. (Reuters) Western Australia won the Sheffield Shield cricket competition for the 12th time today despite a draw with South Australia in the five-day final.

South Australia needed a victory to land the trophy after starting the last match of the interstate competition behind their opponents on points.

Play ended early with Western Australia, champions for the last two years, 289 for two in their second innings, a lead of 330.

The third-wicket pair of Tom Moody and Geoff Marsh treated the South Australian attack with contempt. Both resumed at 10 not out but piled up 130 runs in the two-hour opening session, to reach 156 for one at lunch.

Moody, who scored 162 in the first innings, made 155 before he was trapped leg before by occasional medium pacer Brett Williams.

He became the first player to score a century in both innings of the final and was also the first Western Australian to score 150 in both innings of a Shield match. With a draw the obvious outcome, Marsh continued to find the gaps and reached 105 not out.

## Brothers Sporting crush Lanka Colt

BROTHERS Sporting crushed Lanka Colt by 90 runs to win the President trophy played at EPI ground at Ardiya recently, organised by Gulf Cricket League.

Brothers Sporting captain Sadeq won the toss and elected to bat first.

Brothers managed to score 206 for all out in 43 overs. Only Sadeq and Kamal offered some resistance scoring 33 and 15 runs.

For Lanka Colt main wicket takers were Ossen (4), Solomons (2), Adi and Ralph one each.

Lanka Colt in reply scored 16 runs in 25.1 overs. Wickets falling quickly to the accurate bowling of Brothers' Kanti Patel, Shejad and Robin.

Kanti Patel claimed 6 wickets for 30 runs. Shejad 2 wickets for 22 runs and Robin 2 wickets for 12 runs.

Shivi Bhasin was the guest of



Brothers team

honour and distributed the trophy to the captain of Brothers to Sporting Club Sadeq and runners-up trophy to Lanka Colt.

## Hilti beat Ahli Bank

AL-AHLI won the toss and went in to bat, seeking revenge, in 'Lions Trophy' in Yarmouk Ground.

Batsmen found the going difficult against a varied attack of Jaber and Khozema, and managed to score only 121 for nine wickets in 25 overs. For Hilti bowlers Jaber took two for 18 in five overs and others were Hakim, Mustafa and Shuja who got two wickets each. The top scorer for Al-Ahli was Mukesh with 25 runs.

Hilti in reply scored required runs in 24 overs and lost only five wickets. Main scorers for Hilti were Fazal, Shuja, Khozema and Abuzer who scored 32, 23, 20 and 19 respectively.

## Tivim Centre

TIVIM Centre is pleased to inform that the draw of their 2nd annual New India Assurance 9-a-side inter-village football tournament will be held on 31.3.89 at 9.30 am at Al Sour ground, Kuwait City. All participating teams are kindly requested to be present.

## Wah Ji Wah win



Parvez: 145 not out

WAH JI WAH beat Super Star in a Morning Star cricket tournament recently.

Super Star won the toss and decided to bat. They were all out for 194 runs in 25 overs. The main scorer was Tariq with 60 runs. Wah Ji Wah batted brilliantly and made 195 runs in 17 overs to win the match. Mohammad Parvez hammered 145 with the help of 22 fours and four sixes. The Man of the Match award went to Parvez for his brilliant batting.

## IAC badminton tourney

J.S. Anand, Reji Joseph, C.A. Hasan and Cherry George moved on to quarterfinals in the IAC Badminton Tournament sponsored by P.K. Mervah and Jasbammal & Partners with additional prizes offered by Lipton Tea Company and Adidas.

J.S. Anand had an easy victory over Mathen Thomas (15-9; 15-9), and Reji Joseph made short work of George Tharian by scoring 15-10; 15-1. C.A. Hasan came up from behind and beat Saju Thomas with 15-12; 15-2. Cherry George down one game at 5-15, came up and showed some vintage play by defeating Sanjay Sharma in the second and third games with 15-12; 15-6.

**Other results**  
Men's doubles: Sudhir Walvekar and Anil Raun bt Alex Mathew and K.S. Jinan 15-10; 9-15; 15-9; Mathew Jacob & Jacob Mathews bt P.K. Mankand and Dr. Srivastava 15-13; 17-14; P.C. George & Mathen Thomas bt S. Narayan and Dr. Karuk 15-5; 15-4; R. Suresh and Rajesh bt T. Mathew and Shankar.

Boys' singles: Mathew Jacob bt Kapil Nagi 15-2; 15-0; Geku George bt Rajesh 15-3; 15-1; Sumant Sharma bt Suresh R. 15-7; 9-15; 15-10.

Couples' doubles: Mrs and Mr Jacob Mathew bt Mrs and Mr Thankappan 15-2; 15-2.

**Today's fixtures**  
7-8 pm: Mixed doubles: Suja Varghese and Varghese Joseph vs Maya & Dr. Srivastava; Leela & Mohan George vs Susan Jacob & Cherry George; Lekha & Bal Sharma vs Usha & Thankappan; Shobha George & Mathen Thomas vs Valsa Jacob & M.M. Josehi.

8-9 pm: Men's singles: Sumant Sharma vs Philip Cherian;

**Rain washes out third day's play**

GEORGETOWN, March 29. (Reuters) Heavy rain washed out play today for the third day running in the first cricket Test between West Indies and India, leaving the pitch at Bourda waterlogged.

There was unlikely to be any more play in the match, which with one day remaining looked certain to end in a draw.

Scores: West Indies 437, India 86 for one.

Thursday 30th March

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